



CIPFP Mislata
Centre Integrat Públic
Formació Professional Superior



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Stay@School

Workshop on Module 5 “External support and cooperation”

Mislata (Valencia), Spain

26th March 2013

Minutes

Participants

Juan Murgui, Juan Miguel Marin, Joaquin Escriche y Matilde Guillem.

Minutes

All participants mentioned above attended the workshop and the chairwoman called the meeting agenda at 9:20 which was discussing Module 5 of the European Project Stay@School which regards External support and cooperation, making suggestions for the posts to the forum and proposing future actions in our school. The meeting was held during two sessions on the mentioned dates.

1. In relation to the first point we went through the main concepts of module 5 and examined the causes and supports for teachers and students to address and prevent early school leaving. The module includes a range of scenarios for reflection, an exploration of teacher responses to students in danger of leaving school early, and an outline of potential supports. It is an interactive module inviting participants to engage with the early school leaver, explore the causes, consequences and the supports in tackling the issue.

School responses and support systems differ widely from one country to another. They are dependent on the ethos of the school and also the national educational system. The module therefore is one of exploration. It encourages the trainee to explore the particular situation in the particular country.

We would like to highlight the resources given which use four scenarios from four categories related to the causes of early school leaving to give examples. Each short role play scenario has a non- conclusive outcome. The categories include bullying in the school environment, transition from primary to second level education – lack of integration with class group, low education level of parents and siblings, family problems causing stress in the family, and methodology.

Viewing of videos has been quite clarifying and leads to personal reflection or discussion on possible proactive conclusions and the identification of key areas of direct & indirect supports - existing and potential support networks.

Using the questionnaire proposed to reflect on them is very useful too.



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2. Regarding the suggestions for the forum we would like to contribute with the following posts:

Hi everyone,

After having read module 5 and the interesting posts on the module we would also like to sum up how much we have learnt from all the modules although we won't say anything new in addition to what you have already said except for that we are teachers at a VET school and it is a bit different because of the age of the students.

The consequences of leaving school affects everyone, it reduces their chances of participation in social, cultural and economic development of society as well as it increases individual risk of unemployment, poverty and social exclusion.

It's important to find out the reason or the reasons for which a student wants to leave school before graduating but sometimes it is difficult, it takes too long to find out and, most of the times, when you finally find out you don't have the tools to help.

The most important factors seem to be school and family, however a good collaboration between school and family is not always possible because, in our case, most of our students are over 18 and contact with families is not very frequent so it is difficult to reach the cause of the problem on our own.

However, after our participation in this course, we have learnt that we, as teachers, have along way to go and we can do many things to contribute to avoid early school leaving such as:

- To make teachers aware of our responsibility in the issue even if our students are over 18.
- To find more effective protocols of proceedings to help our students.
- To design preventing actions from the beginning.
- To create a strong connection with the student first because what he need is acceptance and trust.
- To try to find out the reasons why..
- To try to have a tight relationship with parents if possible.
- To be aware of most of most of the students at risk of dropping out are kids who since childhood have low self esteem and lack confidence in themselves.
- There are so many causes about dropout that it's very important prevent by good teaching practices and by welcome in the school and counseling aimed at developing the potential attitude.

We would like to add that schools should be able to help the weak find their way, of course; however, at present we are all suffering a lot of cuttings in education and a lot of the population is coming back to VET schools looking for their formation and with expectations of finding a job, so our problems are increasing day by day and we need more internal and external help. Therefore we claim for:

- Internal and external support networks, which is poor in general in our country.
- More school counsellors / psychologists are extremely necessary.
- Specialized help in many cases is required.
- The lack of funding does not allow to carry out a permanent activity of collaboration with external professional educators who are supporting the teaching of teachers.



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Thanks everyone we had something new to learn!

3. Finally and as far as actions or proposals are concerned all members agreed that the dropout rate is high (around 20%) and even if reasons may be of different types, all of them cause feelings of unease which may lead students to quit school. One of the reasons of failures is surely the lack of good study skills and the subsequent, particular difficulties in learning theoretical subjects, so apart from the suggested teaching methods mentioned, we also agree on the transnational opinion that co-operation between institutions is proven to be the most effective tool to reduce dropout rates'.

As a final suggestion to be implemented in our school in addition to the given previous ones we are trying to raise school dropout awareness among school staff as a first step and analysing the profile of our student more thoroughly.

Finally we want to add that our participation in this course has been very interesting and quite useful for us and it has given us a working path to try to cope with the problem.

Signed by
Juan Murgui, Joaquin Escriche,
Juan M. Marin

Recorded by
Mati Guillem



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