



STUDENT EXCHANGE IN SPAIN (19th – 23rd April, 2022)

The student exchange in Spain took place from 19th to 23rd, April, 2022, at the secondary school I.E.S. Atenea, in the town of Alcala de Heneres, which lies about 30 km east of Madrid. Ten students from the 9th class took part in the exchange along with two accompanying teachers. Two other teachers attended the short staff educational meeting that took place in the same institution.

The secondary school, I.E.S. Atenea, has 809 students between 12 – 18 years of age. It is a combination of the lower secondary and secondary school levels. The school is included in the "Cambridge Assessment English" project and is therefore bilingual. Classes are held in Spanish and certain subjects are also taught in English. In appearance, the school is quite similar to ours. Students' artwork decorates the hallways. The classrooms are also fairly well equipped. Besides the staff room there are many more offices for teachers and a special office for a doorkeeper at the main entrance.

There are 23 different nationalities of students at the school and clashes between them often occur. The school is therefore striving to improve the school's social life, and they are doing it in a special way. They have founded a programme called 'Convivial school life', which is run by a team of teachers and former students who themselves were once victims of harassment at their school. They come to the school several times a month and try to help young people, who are experiencing similar problems. Through group discussions and activities young students learn how to manage and even overcome these obstacles. Judging by the teachers, the programme is working well, but very slowly. They would like to see more boys join in.

The main theme of the student exchange, entitled "Helping Others" was INCLUSION, and dealt with the issue of isolation and subordination of young people; how to overcome the feeling of inferiority among teenagers; how to deal with the problems young people experience in asserting themselves in society; how to deal with their low self-esteem; how to give them back the meaning of life and how to stop them from being bullied by their peers.

During the mobility the Spanish students showed their foreign peers some reasons why misunderstandings between young people occur. One, is the lack of communication between them. Teenagers seem to hear each other, but they don't listen to what is being said by their co-speaker. This often leads to misunderstandings

and clashes. Each activity was followed by short discussions in mixed nationality groups, where a guide to active listening was discussed. They also emphasized the importance of teamwork and mutual understanding. Our students had fun, and at the same time learned quite a lot about themselves and how they see life.

Translation / PREVOD:

IZMENJAVA UČENCEV V ŠPANJI (19. – 23.4 2022)

Izmenjava učencev v Španiji je potekala med 19. in 23. aprilom na srednji šoli I.E.S. Atenea v mestecu Alcala de Heneres v Španiji, približno 30 km vzhodno od Madrida.

Izmenjave se je udeležilo deset učencev iz 9. razreda z dvema učiteljicama spremljevalkama. Kratkega izobraževalnega srečanja, ki je potekalo v isti ustanovi, sta se udeležili še dve učiteljici.

Na šoli je 809 učencev starih od 12 - 18 let. Je kombinacija ravni nižje srednje in srednje šole. Šola je vključena v projekt »Cambridge Assessment English« in je zato dvojezična. Pouk poteka v španščini in določene predmete učijo tudi v angleščini. Na videz je šola precej podobna naši. Hodniki so dokaj okrašeni, učilnice so tudi dokaj opremljene. Opazili pa smo veliko več pisarn za profesorje in takoj pri vhodu posebna pisarna za varnostnika.

Na šoli imajo 23 različnih narodnosti učencev in večkrat pride do spopadov med dijaki. Strmijo torej k izboljšanju družbenega življenja na šoli. In to delajo na poseben način. Ustanovili so program pod imenom 'Convivial school life', ki ga vodi tim učiteljev in bivših dijakov, ki so bili nekoč sami žrtve nadlegovanj na njihovi šoli. Na šolo prihajajo nekajkrat mesečno in skušajo pomagati mladim, ki doživljajo podobne težave. Skozi skupinske razprave in dejavnosti se mladi naučijo obvladati in celo premagati omenjene ovire. Sodeč po učiteljih, program deluje dobro, a zelo počasi. Želeli bi si, da bi se jim pridružilo več fantov.

Osrednja tema izmenjave z naslovom "Pomagaj drugim" je bila INKLUZIJA, ki je obravnavala problematiko izolacije in podrejenosti mladih; kako premagati občutek manjvrednosti med najstniki; kako se soočiti s težavami, ki jih imajo mladi pri uveljavljanju v družbi; kako se soočiti s svojo nizko samopodobo; kako jim vrniti smisel do življenja in kako ustaviti ustrahovanje s strani sovrstnikov.

Med mobilnostjo so španski dijaki tujim vrstnikom pokazali nekaj razlogov, ki povzročajo nesporazume med mladimi. Eden glavnih vzrokov je pomanjkanje komunikacije. Zdi se, da se najstniki med seboj slišijo, vendar ne poslušajo, kar jim govori sogovornik. To pogosto sproži nesporazume in spopade. Vsaki aktivnosti je sledila kratka razprava v mešanih skupinah, kjer so obravnavali vodnik aktivnega poslušanja. Poudarili so tudi pomen timskega dela in medsebojnega razumevanja. Naši učenci so se zabavali, obenem pa izvedeli veliko o sebi in o tem, kako vidijo življenje.

mag. Magdalena Bobek