





## **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE IN PROJECTS**

THAT WERE AWARDED THE EUROPEAN LANGUAGE LABEL

### **AUSTRIA**



Lifelong Learning Programme

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## Best Practice in Vocational Training, Austria



## Language for Healthcare – Healthcare without Borders

The project initiated by the county hospital Villach (LKH Villach) aims to ensure not only better verbal communication between the medical staff and their foreign patients but also to foster a better understanding at social and intercultural level.

Language trainers and experts in languages have worked together in order to develop scripts and CDs, which are tailored to the special needs of the medical professions and are used in the in-house language courses. A multilingual guiding system of patients as well as information brochures and forms of admission and consent were written in Italian, Slovenian, Croatian, English and German.

The success of the programme is demonstrated by the great number of medical staff who have registered for language courses since it started: 620 for Italian and 120 for Slovenian.

The exchange programme of staff with other hospitals from the Friuli Venezia Giulia region, Veneto and Slovenia is very popular among the medical staff from Villach county hospital (LHK Villach) and more and more people want to take part in it.

A multilingual guiding system of patients as well as information brochures forms of admission and consent have already been integrated in the everyday activity of the hospital. Internal and external interpreting services are also highly appreciated by the different departments of the hospital. The qualitative evaluation of the programme is ensured by administering a questionnaire to foreign patients after their stay in hospital.

The project 'Language for Healthcare – Healthcare without Borders' was selected as an example of Austrian Best Practice mainly because of the:

- promotion of new approaches to language teaching and learning (tandem, partnerships)
- promotion of language learning for specific purposes (for the medical professions)
- promotion of the development of teaching materials for the learning of less widely spoken languages
- promotion of multilingualism
- supporting mobility for language learning

#### **Project coordinator**

County Hospital Villach (Alpe –Adria region)

#### **Contact details**

MMag.Dr. Wolfgang Deutz, MAS, MSc

#### **Partnership**

Hospitals in Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Jesenice

#### Web site

www.lkh-vil.or.at

#### **Project duration**

2007 - on going



http://nellip.pixelonline.org/DB\_database\_scheda.php?art\_id=216

## Best Practice in School Education, Austria



# Plurilingualism - The Present and Future of a United Europe

Plurilingualism - The Present and Future of a United Europe is a project initiated by the Cooperative School/Kooperative Mittelschule 16/I, where 90% of the pupils have another mother tongue than German. The project represents a successful example of promoting both the pupils' mother tongue (Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian), the teaching language (German) and another modern language (English).

During the English and German classes also Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian are used, emphasizing the aesthetic literary qualities of these languages. The promotion of linguistic abilities takes place during biology, mathematics, geography classes as well as the musical and physical education.

The most important success which has led to winning the ELL award is represented by the multilingual play 'Captive between Dream and Reality' / 'Gefangen zwischen Traum und Wirklichkeit', dedicated to the events lived by the pupils' parents during the war in former Yugoslavia, celebrating love and youth in several languages. The play is based on texts which have been translated into German by pupils of bilingual classes. Other important events were the visit to a partner class in Serbia, a traditional costume fashion show, a handicrafts exhibition.

The project 'Plurilingualism - The Present and Future of a United Europe' was selected as an example of Austrian Best Practice mainly because of the:

- promotion of new approaches in language teaching and learning (bilingualism as a method of integration of pupils with another mother tongue than German);
- promotion of multilingualism and multiculturality;
- promotion of linguistic correctness and tolerant cohabitation in Europe;
- promotion of literature written in less spoken languages within the EU raising interest in "less important cultures" and their representatives getting the feeling of belonging to the great European family;
- evaluation of the pupils' performance through artistic methods, which contributed to motivate them;
- supporting mobility for language learning could become a source of inspiration for other similar initiatives in other countries.

#### **Project coordinator**

Cooperative School/Kooperative Mittelschule 16/I

#### **Contact details**

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#### **Partnership**

- KMS 16 / I Koppstr 110
- the bilingual class (4 teachers, 25 pupils)
- 11 pupils of the partner school in Serbia: School 'King Alexander I Brdjani Gornji Milanovac'

#### Web site

www.kopp1.at

#### **Project duration**

6 years 2008 – 2013



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#### Best Practice in Higher Education, Austria



# Complementary study programme in Austrian Sign Language

Starting with the academic year 2008-2009 the Institute of Educational Sciences of the University of Vienna has offered a complementary study programme in ASL, consisting of two consecutive one-year modules, the first of this kind in Austria.

The aim of the complementary study programme "Principles of the Austrian Sign Language (ASL) I" is to confer an additional qualification on students in the field of Austrian Sign Language (ASL). They should acquire knowledge about the deaf community, linguistic knowledge of sign language as well as basic active and passive skills in ASL.

The aim of continuing the complementary study programme in ASL II is to acquire the ability to communicate in ASL at the level A2-B1, as well as in-depth knowledge of educational, cultural and social aspects of the deaf community and develop skills to accompany or assist deaf or hearing impaired persons. Graduates are taught to work with deaf ASL users, and develop besides language competences also respect and abilities to differentiate purposeful activities from others. Registration on courses so far on offer for the complementary study programmes in ASL I and II has always been at the highest rate (100%) since 2008.

There is a drop-out-rate of 0% (there were 3 negative scores and two participants withdrew because of health problems). Until now 48 students completed the complementary study programme ASL II (the first year in July 2010, second year June 2011, third year June 2012).

The project 'Complementary study programme in Austrian Sign Language' was selected as an example of Austrian Best Practice mainly because of the:

- promotion of new approaches in language teaching and learning (among a variety of methods used the practical aspects have to be emphasized: attending lectures, excursions, accompanying assisted people);
- graduates do not only acquire linguistic knowledge but also respect for the deaf community and the ability to distinguish between assisting someone and patronizing them;

- focus on the development of tools for monitoring progress in the field of language learning;
- unique combination of the study of ASL with sociopolitical, social and pedagogical principles;
- inclusion of the study of ASL in the academic system, thus enhancing its importance in the field of language policy.

#### **Project coordinator**

University of Vienna, Institute of Educational Sciences, Heilpädagogik und Inklusive Pädagogik

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#### **Partnership**

Institut für Sprachwissenschaft, Wien Mag.a Katharina Schalber, MA Mag.a Helene Jarmer Günter Roiss, MSc Dipl.-Päd. Georg Marsh Barbara Schuster Christian Stalzer (Gastlektor der Uni Graz)

#### Web site

http://bildungswissenschaft.univie.ac.at

#### **Project duration**

2008 - ongoing



http://nellip.pixelonline.org/DB\_database\_scheda.php?art\_id=216