

CONFERENCE

Facilitating Inclusive Education and Supporting the Transition Agenda (FIESTA)

Date: 4 October 2014

Location: Casa del Mar , Barcelona, Spain

Context:

The aim of FIESTA is to develop:

- (1) A multi-disciplinary learning approach for professionals in education, health and social services in order to facilitate the additional learning and support requirements of children with special needs during periods of transition
- (2) Tools and resources for pupils and parents to facilitate successful transition and inclusive education.

This conference will use a participative/holistic approach to harness inclusive methods during transition for children with special educational needs. It will promote collaborative working during periods of transition for all stakeholders involved - e.g. pupils with special educational needs, parents/families, educators, health professionals, social workers, NGOs.

Conference Objectives:

The conference will focus on the outcomes of the FIESTA network developed in order to facilitate children with special educational needs during periods of transition. It will be of particular interest to: **Teachers, Principals, Parents Educational psychologists, Guidance counsellors, Social support staff, Researchers, and Health Professionals.**

Attendance at the conference will provide participants with the opportunity to network and exchange key learning experiences and to develop practical skills in facilitating transition for children with special educational needs:

- ❖ Outcomes and future plans of the FIESTA (*Facilitating Inclusive Education and Supporting the Transition Agenda*) network
- ❖ Benefits and practical supports/resources available to FIESTA members including:



- 3 Managing Transition E-Learning Modules (Design, Evaluation & Impact)
- Self Assessment tool for Schools (Design, Evaluation & Impact)
- Transition Starter Kit (for Parents)

- ❖ International specialist guest speakers in the field of inclusive education, transition and collaborative working

- ❖ Exchange practices in the field of Universal Design for Learning principles.

- ❖ Introduction to the objectives of the Comenius UDLnet network

- ❖ Results of the FIESTA research findings including:
 - Base line for best practice in the field of inclusive education, transition and collaborative working.
 - Results of our consultation with children with special educational needs, parents, educational professionals and health professionals

- ❖ Expert and practical examples from various stakeholders - e.g. teachers, principals, parents, children, health professionals in the areas of transition, inclusion and collaborative working

- ❖ A greater understanding of inclusive education, in particular how to manage the transition process to benefit children with additional educational needs.

Participants will have the opportunity to:

- ❖ Engage in one of the 4 parallel sessions which will focus on transition, inclusive education and universal design for learning

- ❖ Network and learn from other experts and professionals in the field of special education

- ❖ Share life experiences with parents/pupils who have recently transitioned.

- ❖ Become a FIESTA member, a sustainable network of transnational , evidence based practice focused on transition and enabling inclusive education



Network Collaboration

As a unique feature, the FIESTA Conference will host a co-located learning event of the recently launched *UDLnet* Comenius Network through a specialised workshop. *UDLnet* will be developing guidelines and links around the concepts and practices of Universal Design for learning – one of the fastest developing dimensions for sustainable inclusion in learning see www.udlnet-project.eu. This provides an opportunity for shared best practice and linkage for FIESTA networks and outcomes



**Conference Programme
Managing Transition and Inclusive Education
Saturday, 4th October 2014**

9.00-9.30- **Registration**

Session 1

9.30 – 9.45

- **Welcome and local introduction**

M. Àngels González Estremad – Director of Regional Services. SSTT in Tarragona, Department of Education, Catalonia, Spain
Ms. Pilar Ruibal – Director of I-E Pi del Burgar, School, Catalonia, Spain
Dr. Alan Bruce- Conference Chair, Universal Learning Systems, Dublin, Ireland

9.45 – 10.00

- **FIESTA Network overview**

Ms. Kate Kearney- FIESTA Coordinator, Enable Ireland Disability Services Ltd, Cork, Ireland

10.00 – 11.00

- **'How to Learn Together- Diversity in the Classroom'**

Dr. Pere Pujolàs, Professor at the Faculty of Education at the University of Vic.

11.00 – 11.20

- **Comfort Break**

Session 2

11.20- 12.00-

- **FIESTA Results of the Best Practice Report-Inclusion & Transition**

Professor John Davis- Professor of Childhood Inclusion School of Education, Teaching and Leadership, Department of Educational Studies Moray House School of Education, University of Edinburgh, Scotland
Dr. John Ravenscroft- Head of Institute and Deputy Head of School of Education, Teaching and Leadership, Department of Educational Studies Moray House School of Education, University of Edinburgh, Scotland

12.00 – 12.30

- **Practical Experiences of Transition- Pi del Burgar, School, Catalonia**

- **Pupil's Experience-** Mr. Esteve Pino- '*My transition experience*'
- **Parent's Experience-** Ms. Aransazu Fonts- '*Mother of special needs child- difficulties and positive experiences on the process of my child's transition*'
- **Teacher's Experience-** Ms. Íngrid Blade. Special Educational Teacher, Pi del Burgar, Catalonia & Ms. Sandra Badia. Teacher, Pi del Burgar, Catalonia '*Professional perspectives*'

12.30 – 13.00

- **Presentation of FIESTA Products**

Professor Panayiotis Angelides, Professor of Education, University of Nicosia
Mr. Teemu Patala, Director Training & Development, Context Learning Finland



13.00-14.00

- **Lunch**

Session 3

14.00-14.20

- **Universal Design for All – UDLnet**
Mrs. Katerina Riviou, UDLnet Coordinator EllinogermanikiAgogi School (EA)
Athens, Greece

14.20 – 15.00

- **Tocar el Futuro/ Touch the Future.**
Mr. Rey Gonzalez, CEO and Director of El Valor, Chicago, Illinois, United States
of America

15.00-15.15

- **Comfort Break**

15.15 – 16.15

- **4 Workshops**
 - **Self Assessment for Teachers** – Facilitated by Anestis Papadopoulos, Platon School, Katerini, Greece
 - **Parents Participation in Transition**– Facilitated by John Ravenscroft, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
 - **Universal Design for Learning in the Classroom** – Facilitated by Neil O’Sullivan, Universal Learning Systems, Dublin Ireland & Dr. Gabi Lau, CEFAS, Germany
 - **Professionals Experiences of Transition** – Facilitated by Claire James, Occupational Therapist, Enable Ireland Disability Services, Cork

16.15-16.25

- **Conference close-** Facilitated by Dr. Alan Bruce, Conference Chair, Universal Learning Systems, Dublin, Ireland.

16.25 – 16.35

- **Conference close- Musical Entertainment-** Pupils from Pi del Burgar , School, Catalonia

Further Information

For further information see the FIESTA website- or contact:

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This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This product reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein

