

SAINTE MARIE de SAINT SERVIN INTERNATIONALISATION POLICY



PRESENTATION OF THE SCHOOL

Sainte Marie de Saint Sernin is a vocational school located in the city center of Toulouse, south of France. Our school welcomes around 450 pupils and students each year and prepares them for CAP, BAC, BTS MUC and CI, BEP, Brevet des Collèges in the fields of Sales, Business, Administration and Communication. There are also a Professional Training Centre where students have both school and work experience alternating, and a fair trade “training” shop.

Our students follow lessons and courses on both general subjects (French, English, Spanish, history, geography, math, applied arts, sport) and professional subjects (Management, merchandizing, customers’ relations...). They also attend 24/30 weeks work experiences in different companies during their 3 years schooling in order to acquire professional skills and a better knowledge in the field they are studying.

They have the possibility to follow extra courses of English and Spanish (2 hours more per week) called “European section” during the two years preceding their final degree.

As a vocational school, the headmaster and the school team feel deeply concerned by European citizenship and internationalization policy: our students learn how Europe is a cultural, linguistic and historical legacy which now represents a political, geographical and commercial union having its place in globalization. What make Europe are the participation, commitment and mutual sharing in political, commercial, professional, educational fields. Consequently, we prepare our students to get different degrees and follow their studies or enter working life with the best skills and consideration for Europe.

IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONALIZATION AND GOALS

Our school have been involved in European projects for 10 years now. It is always one of our main theme to follow in our school policy because it represents values we strongly defend.

Our students need to open their minds to European citizenship and consider their professional training and future in a bigger sense than only in France. That's why we offered them the opportunity to spend a month of internship in different European countries during their formation and the occasion to visit and share cultural experiences with other students in different European schools.

The goals were and still are today:

1. For the students

- Open-mindedness, discovering and integrating different European cultures and way of living
- Adaptability, knowing how to acclimatize and develop communication
- Friendship and social relationships, making friends abroad and maintaining a link with people creating social opportunities
- Professional skills and experiences, getting a strong professional culture and formation for the degree/following studies/working life and personal improvement
- European citizenship, becoming an active member of the European committee and being aware of European values
- Culture, knowing better the different cultures that make Europe and acquire knowledges

2. For the teachers and school team

- Improve and innovate, teaching differently and renewing methods
- Follow the evolution of society/technics, being up on novelty
- Importance of communication, sharing, be part of Europe
- Reputation, getting involved and bringing a European spirit in Catholic education

CONDITIONS/ ACTIVITIES SET UP AT SCHOOL

- Use of the internet, computers, social networks to introduce gradually internationalization
- Prepare and participate to a 4 weeks training period abroad,
- Partnerships with European schools
- School trips and visits
- Conferences about Europe organized with independent contractors from “La maison de l’Europe” in Toulouse

TEACHERS and PERSONS INVOLVED/ THEIR TASKS

Every member of the educative team is involved more or less/different levels in the internationalization policy of the school.

- The headteacher: deciding, checking, managing, supporting.
- The “pilots” or teachers in charge: 2 teachers organizing, informing, preparing, distributing different tasks, planning.
- The teachers: putting into practice, giving ideas, helping.
- Administrative team: controlling finances, insurance, administrative documents.

FINANCES

- Erasmus grants
- Financial supplies from the region Toulouse Occitanie
- Professional supplies from companies and partners
- OGEC (Catholic Education Administrative Organization) sustaining our projects financially
- Different sales organized by students to get some more funds