

First experiences

In 2007-08, nearly 300 pupils from 10 European countries took part in a pilot of Comenius Individual Pupil Mobility. They experienced everyday life in their host country, learned a new language and returned home with lots of new impressions, experiences and skills.

Benjamin (18, Austria):

"I knew the school, but also the host family from a previous Comenius school partnership. However, this experience was different, because I was on my own and had to make more effort in order to integrate in the class. In the end, I liked this experience so much, that I would have preferred to stay for the whole school year!"

(Benjamin spent 6 months in a school in France)

Lists of links and further references

Detailed information is available on the European Commission website:

The Guide for Applicants for the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) provides detailed information on the application and selection procedure

● http://ec.europa.eu/education/llp/doc848_en.htm

The Guide to Comenius Individual Pupil Mobility sets out the roles and responsibilities of those involved, indicates the deadlines to be met, gives guidance and provides the requisite templates and forms for participants.

● http://ec.europa.eu/education/comenius/doc990_en.htm

Contact details of the National Agencies in all participating countries

● http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-programme/doc1208_en.htm



Comenius Individual Pupil Mobility

- Comenius Individual Pupil Mobility gives secondary pupils the chance to spend between 3 and 10 months in a host school and a host family abroad.
- Comenius Individual Pupil Mobility gives pupils a European learning experience. It broadens their understanding of the diversity of European cultures and languages and helps them to acquire the skills they need for their personal development.
- Comenius Individual Pupil Mobility helps to build up sustainable cooperation between participating schools and to enrich the European dimension of school education. It supports them to recognise studies done at partner schools abroad.
- Comenius Individual Pupil Mobility offers specific training for teachers involved in organising the mobility. It provides them with valuable international contents. Pupils also receive training to prepare for their stay abroad.



How to get involved

Comenius Individual Pupil Mobility is between secondary schools that are or have been involved in a Comenius School Partnership. They can apply for grants to send pupils to one or more of their Comenius partner schools. Pupils have to be at least 14 years old and enrolled full-time in their school.

Schools wishing to send one or more pupils have to apply to the Comenius National Agency in their country. They should contact the National Agency well in advance for further details on the application and selection procedure.

The grant contributes to the schools' administrative costs and the cost of language preparation. It covers one return journey plus a monthly allowance for the pupil. It is paid via the sending school. Costs related to training for pupils and teachers are paid directly by the National Agencies. Pupils are covered by a group health insurance scheme during their stay abroad.

Frequently asked questions

Which countries take part?

In 2011 the following countries will take part in this new Comenius action: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. Both the sending and the receiving schools must be in one of these countries.

Where can I find more information on Comenius Individual Pupil Mobility?

All those interested in getting involved in Comenius Individual Pupil Mobility – schools, pupils, their parents and host families – should consult the "Guide to Comenius Individual Pupil Mobility", which aims to help them set up project and ensure the well-being of the pupils involved. The Guide is available in English on the European Commission website and in translation on the websites of the relevant Comenius National Agencies.

Will pupils and teachers receive training?

The National Agencies will organise training sessions to help both teachers and participating pupils to prepare their stays abroad before leaving and integrate on arrival.

Who will take care of the pupil during the stay abroad?

In the host country, the pupil will stay with a host family selected by the host school. To facilitate integration and to ensure well-being, the host school will appoint a mentor to advise the pupil during the whole stay.

Will the pupil's studies be recognised?

The sending school, the host school and the pupil will draw up a learning agreement detailing the studies to be followed. The sending school should then recognise the pupil's studies when he or she returns, on the basis of a report from the host school.

