



Erasmus +: An introduction for Schools



What is Erasmus +?

- Erasmus+ is the European Union's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. It offers funding to schools, institutions, organisations and local authorities for mobilities and for co-operation projects for Schools and education.
- In December 2025 the UK announced that it would be joining the Erasmus + programme for the 2027 call for funding.
- In April 2026 the government announced that the British Council was set to become the **National Agency** for Erasmus + .

What can schools and organisations apply for ?

KA1 Mobility Activities

Opportunities for staff

- ❖ Job shadowing/Teaching Abroad
- ❖ Training courses
- ❖ Hosting an expert
- ❖ Hosting a trainee teacher

Opportunities for learners

- ❖ Group mobility: Groups of up to 30 pupils (plus teachers) can travel to a partner school.
- ❖ Individual mobility: Pupils can study abroad at a partner school or do a traineeship abroad.

KA2 Partnerships

Small-scale partnerships

At least two organisations from different countries. Apply for a grant of €30,000 or €60,000.

Co-operation partnerships

At least three partners such as multi-academy trusts, local authorities or initial teacher training providers, although schools can take part as a partner. Grant options are €120,000, €250,000 or €400,000.

European Partnerships for School Development

These partnerships support strategic innovation and sharing of good practice. More suitable for organisations such as multi-academy trusts, local authorities or initial teacher training providers, although schools can take part as a partner. Grants of €400,000 are available

Key Actions 4 Priority Areas

The European Commission have four main crosscutting focus areas for Erasmus +. These areas are important to consider when designing a project.



**Inclusion and
Diversity**



**Digital
Transformation**



**Environment
and the fight
against climate
change**



**Participation in
democratic life,
common values
and civic
engagement**



How to find a partner school?

Remember partners can be from EU member states or associated eligible countries including: Iceland, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland or Türkiye.

- Reach out to an already established partner school
- Use the British Council's "**Partner Finder Tool**"
- Use the Erasmus+ "**European School Education Platform**"
- Research and use your local town or village Twinning links
- There are some Facebook Groups dedicated to finding Partners (Please be careful)
- Attend one of the British Council's dedicated Partner Finding Sessions
- Please note that a small number of Key Action 1 projects do not need a partner school (although it is beneficial)

* Please note partners should not ask for payment at any point. Please be careful with your personal information.

Practical Steps for Application

01

Establish an international team at your school or org (consult SLT). A support network will be important.

02

Define areas or strengths and areas you would like to develop in your school or organisation. Think of E+ priority areas.

03

Consider a realistic project or plan for your school, can you commit to short, mid or long term project?

04

Find a partner or consortium to join

05

Draft an application with your partners ahead of time.

British Council Sessions

Partnerfinding Sessions

Join one of these sessions to find a partner school and take your first step towards a joint project. For UK schools and European schools interested in working with the UK:

Partner finding session: Digital transformation

Monday 15 June from 16.30 to 17.45 GMT. [Register here](#).

Partner finding session: Inclusion and diversity

Thursday 18 June from 16.30 to 17.45 GMT. [Register here](#).

Watch Introduction to Erasmus + for schools

<https://ow.ly/rf3V50Z1FK6>

Some suggested extra reading

Guidance:

- The **Erasmus + Programme Guide** (please note this will be reissued with updated guidance in the next coming months but can be a good place to start).
- The Department for Education have also issued their own **guidance for schools**.
- For inspiration you search **The Erasmus + Project Results** data base. You can search for examples of KA1 and KA2 projects.

