

Erasmus+ and eTwinning: Creating blended learning mobility projects in school education

eTwinning is an initiative of the European Commission, funded by the Erasmus+ programme, under the broader umbrella of the European Union's support for education and training.

While Erasmus+ projects enable physical mobility and cross-border learning experiences, eTwinning provides a safe, powerful digital space to sustain collaboration, dialogue and shared creation before, during and after mobilities.

In school education, this synergy can transform a mobility experience into a longer-term, blended learning journey – supporting project continuity, deeper integration of key competencies and collaborative knowledge construction.

WHY BLEND ETWINNING WITH ERASMUS+ IN SCHOOL EDUCATION?

- Ensures preparation, engagement, continuity and sustainability of the mobility activities of the project.
- Facilitates digital collaboration across international partner schools and institutions.
- Reinforces the pedagogical purpose of mobility beyond cultural exposure.
- Offers an inclusive platform to co-create, reflect on and evaluate learning processes.
- Promotes shared ownership among all pupils – those who travel and those who don't.

BEFORE

BEFORE THE MOBILITY: PREPARING, PLANNING, CONNECTING

Use eTwinning to set up a project which will lay the foundation for a meaningful mobility experience.

ACTIONS TO TAKE:

- Find partners for projects via the eTwinning groups and rooms (using the partner finding forum to write your project sketch).
- Create a project and once approved by your NSO, its TwinSpace will be automatically created.
- Initiate communication in the project's TwinSpace among partner schools by introducing teachers, institutions, pupils and subjects.
- Set shared learning goals by co-defining the competencies to be developed during mobility (e.g., math, literacy, science, citizenship, digital, etc.).
- Prepare pupils digitally and interculturally by using forums or TwinBoards in TwinSpace for icebreaking, vocabulary sharing, cultural exchange, etc.
- Design collaborative tasks such as joint research, planning or prototype design relevant to the upcoming physical mobility.

EXAMPLE:

Before mobility focused on sustainability, students co-create a digital glossary of relevant terms, exchange video presentations about their local environments and plan collaborative project activities for their upcoming meeting.

DURING THE MOBILITY: DOCUMENTING, COLLABORATING, REFLECTING

The TwinSpace serves as a **live collaborative learning environment**, not just a repository.

ACTIONS TO TAKE:

- Encourage real-time updates by using the TwinSpace, photo galleries and discussion threads to document experiences.
- Facilitate joint learning tasks by asking learners from host and visiting countries to work in mixed teams to document fieldwork, practices or challenges.
- Embed reflection by asking pupils to post weekly entries, videos or group notes on what they're learning.
- Support non-mobile pupils by asking them to comment, peer-review and collaborate online with the mobile participants.

EXAMPLE:

During mobility on environmental education, students use the TwinSpace to share videos, photos and reflective journals, collaborating across schools to analyse and discuss their observations.

AFTER THE MOBILITY: CONSOLIDATING, SHARING, UPSCALING

Use eTwinning to transform mobility outcomes into long-term learning assets.

ACTIONS TO TAKE:

- Co-create final products such as manuals, portfolios, digital exhibitions or how-to videos to capture the skills developed.
- Evaluate and reflect via the post-project evaluation activities, testimonials and collaborative reviews to consolidate learning.
- Disseminate outcomes by sharing products, stories and insights via the TwinSpace and link them to wider Erasmus+ dissemination efforts.
- Plan follow-up activities by using eTwinning to develop new phases of collaboration or launch follow-up Erasmus+ applications.

EXAMPLE:

After a mobility on digital storytelling and citizenship, students collaboratively produce and share multilingual digital stories illustrating cultural experiences of citizenship, accessible to other schools via the TwinSpace.

KEEP IN MIND: THE TWinspace IS A CO-CREATION SPACE, NOT JUST A REPOSITORY

To fully harness the potential of the TwinSpace:

- Design it as a learning environment with structured activities, interactive content and pupil-led pages.
- Encourage pupils' autonomy by letting them upload, comment, lead discussions and co-moderate pages.
- Organise content by themes or phases of the Erasmus+ project (preparation, action, reflection, dissemination).
- Use a variety of tools (e.g. forums, blogs, video galleries, wikis, shared files) that support dialogic, social and constructive learning.



Publications Office
of the European Union

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Web PDF

ISBN 978-92-9416-007-2

doi: 10.2797/7745439

EC-01-25-106-EN-N

