

## ***Amber Initiatives***

Amber Initiatives is a non-for-profit organisation with charitable aims whose European dimension is clearly reflected in every aspect of the structure and activity.

The objectives of the company are:

- The provision of a high quality information, advice and guidance service, also providing practical support and skills assessment and development of people from disadvantaged background.
- To facilitate where possible the integration of migrant workers with the host community, promoting social inclusion and community cohesion.
- To identify both beneficial and problematic issues arising from migration to the UK.
- To work in partnership with appropriate statutory, private and voluntary agencies to achieve common aims in building inclusive society.

## **Addressing Diversity and Equality in classroom**

As the Europe becomes a more culturally and ethnically diverse nation, public schools are becoming more diverse, too.

Schools should find the most effective pedagogical approaches to help all students succeed academically as well as learn to get along with each other.

To create a positive environment where students and teachers are respectful of different backgrounds, schools have to be proactive. Schools should strive to create an environment where all children feel valued and all children can learn.

This training aims to help schools create and sustain a welcoming and inclusive environment for pupils and parents from all backgrounds and ensure equal access for all.

This course takes a refreshing look at the subject of equal opportunities with an interactive sessions that aims to encourage a greater understanding of the subject.

By the end of the training course you are guaranteed to leave with a different approach and a firmer understanding of what is required in practice.

During the training you will explore theoretical and practical aspects of addressing diversity and equality in classroom as well as will visit local schools to gain a greater understanding how UK schools address diversity and equality.

### *Why Do We Need to Address Diversity?*

As more and more students from diverse backgrounds populate 21st century classrooms, and efforts mount to identify effective methods to teach these students, the need for pedagogical approaches that are culturally responsive intensifies.

Today's classrooms require teachers to educate students varying in culture, language, abilities, and many other characteristics.

To meet this challenge, teachers must employ not only theoretically sound but also culturally responsive pedagogy.

Teachers must create a classroom culture where all students regardless of their cultural and linguistic background are welcomed and supported, and provided with the best opportunity to learn.

### *Learning outcomes:*

- • Improved competences, linked to the participants' professional profiles:
- • Increased English language skills.
- • Increased knowledge of diversity and equal opportunities.
- • Increased analytical skills.
- • Increased knowledge of different ways how to address diversity issues in classroom.
- • Increased creativity and motivation.

### *Broader understanding of practices, policies and systems:*

- • Increased awareness of European Equality Regulations.
- • Increased awareness of UK Education system and methods used in UK schools to meet needs of the disadvantaged students.

### *• Better quality of the work through:*

- • Increased knowledge of new methods and approaches.
- • Greater understanding and responsiveness to social, linguistic and cultural diversity of Europe and local area.
- • Increased motivation and creativity in daily work.

### *Methods used:*

Combination of methodology sessions, case studies, practical activities in the field and visits to local schools.

## Aims:

Improve the level of key competences and skills, related to professional profile of the participants, in particular through:

- development of knowledge about the sociocultural backgrounds of students from disadvantaged groups.
- Exploring the meaning of equal opportunities.
- Exploring ways how to address the needs of students from diverse background.
- Increase awareness of the European Equality regulations.
- Explore examples of how equal opportunities policies can work in practice.
- Foster quality improvements, innovation and internationalisation of educational establishment, in particular through transnational cooperation and sharing best practice in education.

## Timetable

### *1 day.*

- AM- Welcome ceremony, introduction of programme. Tree of Expectations, House rules, getting into team.
- PM- British Education System introduction.

### *2 day.*

- AM - Diversity in changing world.
- PM - Strategic approach to address diversity in classroom.

### *3 day.*

- AM - Study visit to local primary school.
- PM - Working with families and community.

### *4 day.*

- AM - Study visit to local secondary school.
- PM - free time.

*5 day.*

- AM - Equal opportunities.
- PM - Explore examples of how equal opportunities policies can work in practice (UK experience).

*6 day.*

- AM- Extra-curriculum activities.
- PM- Ofsted inspection.

*7 day.*

- AM/PM- Study visit to Community Special School.

*8 day*

- AM- Simulation exercise 'Factory of Ideas'.
- PM- Development of techniques in anti-discriminatory practice.

*9 day.*

- AM- Capacity Building: Analytical session.
- PM- Official closing ceremony.