

# ETHOS project

2011 - 2013



The project focuses on two areas:

Area 1: meeting the needs of highly talented pupils by offering opportunities to participate in models of good practice to staff and students across the partnership

Area 2: exploring and sharing good practices in meeting the special needs of pupils

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2011 - 2013



Why this project? In Vienna (Oct. 2010) we came to the following conclusion (quote from the ETHOS document):

“Teachers concluded they found a relevant common theme of interest in meeting individual student needs: how to deal with exceptionally talented pupils on the one side of the equation (= AREA 1) and pupils with special needs and difficulties on the other side of the equation (= AREA 2). All schools seem to struggle with the matter in different ways and would find it highly interesting and helpful to learn from each other, and develop new strategies to improve the quality of education for all pupils.”

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2011 - 2013



## The project aims at developing:

1. European citizenship
2. Equal opportunities
3. Communication and research skills
4. Quality assurance approaches

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AREA 1: Mini conferences will be organized in the following areas:

Mathematics

-Sports

-Music

-Leadership/entrepreneurship

Highly talented pupils in these will be invited to come together and work together in their field of interest at the highest possible level.

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2011 - 2013



AREA 2: School will conduct research in (one of) the following areas:

- Reading and writing difficulties (dyslexia, second language difficulties ...)

- Difficulties with number

- Behavioural difficulties (incl. motivational problems, ADHD, etc.)

Schools will report on the effectiveness of their policies and present the findings of their research.

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## AREA 2 (contd):

“To involve as many pupils as possible, pupils’ representatives of all partner schools will be trained as researchers in their own school and work with teachers to bring out reports on provision and practice to the partner schools. Mini-conferences of pupils’ and teachers’ representatives exchange findings and formulate conclusions.”

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2011 - 2013



Which benefits can we expect from this project?

- Challenges and inspiration for students and teachers
- Schools will learn from each other by sharing practices and experiences
- Enhancing our school policies and pedagogical strategies

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2011 - 2013



## **So what is expected of us/you?**

Depending on what activities you have signed in for:

- To participate or organize mini conferences in area 1 topics
- To form a research team (students and staff) in your school to conduct a survey in one of the area 2 topics
- To organize research activities in one of the area 2 topics.



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2011 - 2013



## TIME SCHEDULE:

-Area 1: for Master classes/ mini conferences: see project document

No 27: Master class in maths, spring 2012 (S)

No 31: Workshop on Music, spring 2012 (UK)

No. 38: Master Class French, spring 2012 (F)

No. 46: Competition and workshops on Sports, autumn 2012 (N)

No. 60: Master Class on Music, spring 2013 (D)

No. 65: Mini conference on Sports, spring 2013 (A)

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2011 - 2013



## AREA 2

Ireland: planning the research

Finland: sharing the interim results of the research

Autumn 2012: 'mini (or maxi?) conference' in Belgium where all schools involved will present their results.

# ETHOS project

2011 - 2013



Other important aspects of ETHOS are:

- **Dissemination** of activities and results, both through the project's website ([www.europrojectnet.eu](http://www.europrojectnet.eu)) and using the website of our schools etc.
- **Quality management.** This is expected of us, but it is also important to improve ourselves!

(questionnaires, developing new tools, monitoring & evaluating the progress, collecting/analyzing data, reporting to the network etc.)

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## Quality Management



Quote from the project document:

*They (= the QM group) are responsible for:*

- *Creating, revising and distributing questionnaires, diaries and other evaluation tools to the participating schools*
- *monitoring the use of these by the schools*
- *collecting and analyzing the results of the evaluations*
- *reporting, presenting and disseminating the results of the evaluations*
- *making recommendations to the steering committee and the schools of the network on possible improvements*

# ETHOS project

2011 - 2013



1. All network conferences will be evaluated using a questionnaire (based on 'how good was the conference?')
2. The network conferences will also be used for monitoring the progress and to discuss the results of mini conferences and research activities.
3. (Digital) questionnaires will be developed for the mini conferences using the 'activity evaluation sheet'
4. (Digital) evaluation tools will be developed for the research teams in the schools.

# ETHOS project

2011 - 2013



After each conference the results of evaluations will be published on the website.

We will ask all schools to use a common digital instrument, to be explained by Koen. (This is new in our project!)

The Q-group and Koen will try to have all tools ready before the end of 2011.