

Emmaus Aalter Secondary School

The “Emmausinstituut @2 Bovenbouw” is a higher secondary school situated in Aalter, Flanders, the Northern part of our country Belgium. Although Aalter is still a rural village, it has recently become more and more industrial as new industries settled in the region, due to the fact that the village is situated at a crossroad of some arterial highways.

The school has a general, technical and vocational department. Science, economics , modern languages and classical culture are taught in our general department where we prepare most of our pupils for University. The technical specialties taught in our school are mechanics, electro mechanics, electricity and trade. Car mechanics and tools mechanics are the two vocational profiles we teach at Emmaus. Although the majority of pupils are in the general department, a lot of attention is paid to technical and vocational pupils. Technical and vocational departments maintain strong ties with the local industry in the field of training and work placement. Through this cooperation, a lot of pupils get a job in the local industry. The total number of secondary pupils at Emmaus is approximately 1100 pupils with a staff of 140 (teachers, administration, ...)

At the school there is also a long tradition of cooperation with other schools, both on a national and international level. This cooperation helps to meet some of school's educational goals such as pupil's participation, self-activation, respect for other cultures and creativity. Emmaus is convinced that participation in an international project gives the school's educational project a boost and stimulates the pupils to broaden their horizon and vision on other cultures. Projects abroad will elaborate pupil's talents, especially for those in the technical and vocational departments and will stimulate their knowledge and use of foreign languages and the use of ICT for communication. Furthermore, the Erasmus+ projects should help pupils to develop hidden talents and strengthen their self-respect.

Peter De Deyn is ICT coordinator and head of international projects at Emmaus Aalter. He is quite experienced as local and international Erasmus+ project coordinator. He coordinated several projects within the Lifelong learning Comenius programme.

Emmaus has quite a big core team that cooperates within European projects and is still growing; Jan Leybaert is teacher of science and geography, Filip Roets is teacher of metal technology and safety coordinator, Paul van Daele is teacher of chemistry and French, Sofie van Damme is teacher of English and German, Koen Maes is teacher of Mathematics and science, Jurgen Quintyn is member of the administration and pedagogical team, Lore Reyniers is pupil counselor, Birger Quintyn is our Pedagogical Headmaster, Dimitry Plas is the General Headmaster. All these colleagues are key staff of the Emmaus Erasmus+ team and were involved in previous projects. All of them are eager to start new Erasmus+ projects at Emmaus Aalter. Our team is very willing to learn from partners in a European context.

We definitely would like to adopt creative ideas and methods for IT from our European partners. Teachers and pupils are eager to have more IT in all kinds of lessons making teaching more modern, attractive and interactive.

Furthermore Erasmus+ project work and mobilities are a strategic goal within our school development plan. “In the framework of Erasmus and European educational context all staff members should go abroad at least one time in the next ten years”.