

Short-term exchanges of groups of pupils (3 days to 2 months)

Short-term exchanges of groups of pupils can be organised between schools from different countries participating in the same Strategic Partnership. During such events, pupils work together in one of the partner schools and can be hosted in each other's families. Joint project work during the visits should be linked to the aims of the Strategic Partnership.

Please note that the cooperation between schools in a partnership should not be limited to such events but also include common online and local activities. Schools are encouraged to use eTwinning in order to work together on the project before and after the mobility events.

Pupils undertaking short-term exchanges should always be accompanied by adults to ensure their protection and safety, as well as their effective learning during the mobility experience.

Joint project work events during the visits should give pupils and teachers in different countries an opportunity to work together on one or more topics of mutual interest. They help pupils and teachers to acquire and improve skills not only in the topic or subject area on which the project is focused, but also in terms of teamwork, intercultural learning, social relations, planning and undertaking project activities and using information and communication technologies (ICT).

Participating in joint project work with groups of pupils from partner schools from different countries also gives pupils and teachers the opportunity to practice foreign languages and increases their motivation towards language learning.

Project activities should ideally be integrated into the regular activities of the schools and be included in the curriculum of participating pupils. Pupils should be able to be involved in all phases of the project, including the planning, organisation and evaluation of activities.

Long-term study mobility of pupils (2 to 12 months)

The aim of the activity is to strengthen the cooperation between the schools involved in the same Strategic Partnership. The mobility activities should be linked to the aims of the Strategic Partnership and need to be embedded in the project design. Schools are encouraged to use eTwinning in order to work together on the project before, during and after the mobility activities of pupils.

These measures should help in maximising the impact on participating schools. The activity also allows pupils to develop their understanding of the diversity of European cultures and languages, and helps them acquire competences necessary for their personal development.

The schools involved in the partnership should work together on developing learning agreements, recognising the studies undertaken at the partner school abroad and strengthening the European dimension in school education. This activity should also be a valuable international pedagogical experience for the teachers involved in the organisation and implementation of the mobility.

Participants are selected by the schools. They need to be pupils aged at least 14 and be enrolled full-time in a school participating in the Strategic Partnership. Selected pupils can spend between 2 and 12 months in a receiving school and a host family abroad.

A reciprocal exchange of pupils between schools/host families is encouraged but is not compulsory.

All actors involved in the study mobility – schools, pupils, their parents and host families – should consult the specific Guide to Study Mobility of Pupils which aims to help them in implementing the activity and ensure the safety and well-being of the pupils involved.

The Guide specifies roles and responsibilities, gives guidance and provides the necessary templates and forms for participants. The Guide is available in English at the Europa website and in translation at the website of the relevant National Agency.