Schools joining up for Communities of Peace

A European Project on Peace and Discord

Dear Parents,

Together with six Protestant schools from Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Poland and the United Kingdom, with the Vrijen Universiteit Amsterdam and the Berghof Foundation/Peace Education and Global Learning, we, the Church Office of the Protestant Church in Germany/GPENreformation, would like to carry out a project dedicated to European Peace Education.

The project "Schools joining up for Communities of Peace" is funded by the European Union's "Erasmus+" programme. A digital map of peace and conflict is being developed together with the students of the participating schools and their teachers. For this purpose, places that stand for peace or conflict are visited in the immediate vicinity of each school. There the students will take photos, research information on the history and significance of the place and prepare them digitally in international working groups. In addition, important knowledge of Peace Education - especially from a Protestant perspective – is imparted.

On the one hand, the project will be carried out in digital cooperation: in January/February 2020, a joint video conference kick-off will take place. The students then work together with their classmates and use a learning platform for international exchange.

On the other hand, there will be joint meetings: in May 2020 in Hungary, in December 2020 in Ireland and in April/May 2021 in Poland (the exact dates will be agreed with the schools so that no examination dates etc. are affected). Each meeting will last three days (plus travel) and will be attended by five students and two teachers per school. The costs for the trips are financed by the programme.

What do your children get out of it? They get to know students from other European countries and work with them digitally and personally. They can apply and improve their English skills in a concrete project and develop their skills as "peacemakers" in a globalised society. In addition, all those who attend one of the meetings receive the Europass Mobility.

If you have any further questions about the project, please feel free to contact the participating teachers or the responsible EKD staff at Team@GPENreformation.net.

Best regards

Your Project Team of the Protestant Church in Germany

