



Engaging the School Communities for Holistic Education

By Peter Junker

Course details

- 🕒 One week course
- € Starting from 480€ (Cultural activities included)*
- 👥 Min. 4 - max. 14 participants
- 📄 Certificate of attendance included (80% of attendance required)
- 📍 Available in Amsterdam and Copenhagen

* A 60 € late registration fee will be applied if you register less than 8 weeks before the course start date.

Course description

As the competencies and skills required for the youngest generations are changing rapidly, schools are also required to react quickly and adapt to change.

However, misconceptions about the purpose and means of education still affect families and can impair the effects of school changes.

In fact, schools oriented towards innovation can find it extremely hard to change their educational programs if they don't build a relationship with parents and the community first.

How to do this?

The course will provide primary school teachers and principals with a clear understanding of what processes to start in order to engage families and create a cohesive self-supportive school community.

Over the years, the creators have realized that changes in education are very hard to promote without the active support of the families. Engaging parents and the wider community is especially important.





By involving parents in positive and meaningful ways, school principals can create a more supportive and inclusive culture, which immediately manifests in the classroom as well. This, in turn, can help introduce innovative methodologies and strategies in school education.

Participants in the course will learn the foundation of how to involve parents in the school community to support their pupils' overall well-being.

By sharing best practices, listening to empirical evidence, and receiving feedback from the facilitator, they will sharpen their tools and strategies to engage parents and families in the school's educational mission.

Moreover, participants will discover the method of Playful Learning, a program typically offered to primary school teachers and principals to develop children's full potential by encouraging a more playful approach to learning and development.

Apart from engaging the school community, Playful Learning also focuses on how to reduce stress and recharge teachers' energy, how to implement a common language of well-being in the classroom, and how to develop social-emotional skills like empathy and kindness.

By the end of the course, participants will have acquired a toolbox of methods to create a strong and cohesive school community. Moreover, they will feel confident in practicing energy tools, and mind-body activities to promote their and their pupils' well-being and social-emotional skills.

Learning outcomes

The course will help the participants to:

- Realize how to involve parents in positive and meaningful ways to build strong relationships.
- Know how to make parents feel comfortable focusing on Holistic Education and Playful Learning.
- Build and facilitate a strong learning community for parents.
- Involve and inspire parents to support the overall well-being of pupils;
- Build a strong, helpful, and inclusive culture in the classroom;
- Understand the goals and principles of Playful Learning;
- Exchanging experiences and examples of good practice in a multicultural and safe context.

Tentative schedule

Day 1 – Course Introduction





- Introduction to the course, the school, and the external week activities;
- Icebreaker activities;
- Presentation of you, your school, and your expectations for the course;
- Needs analysis.

Engaging communities: Why and how?

- Introducing change in schools;
- The benefits of turns in education;
- 21st-century skills for personal well-being and social inclusion;
- The importance of the school community.

Day 2 – Building strong, long-lasting, and successful relations with parents

- Competencies and skills required by today's principals, teachers, and parents are changing rapidly;
- The need for cooperation;
- Sharing best practices and empirical evidence on how to involve parents in positive and meaningful ways to build strong, long-lasting, and successful relationships;
- Seated practice and exchange of experience.

Day 3 – Introduction to Playful Learning with a heartfelt approach

- Playing, Holistic Child Development, Communities, and Education;
- Teaching involving body and creativity: shared discussion and empirical evidence;
- Body-Mind Balance: evidence-based approaches to wellbeing in the classroom.

Day 4 – The learning community

- How to make parents feel safe and comfortable focusing on Holistic Education, Playful Learning, and well-being;
- How to involve and inspire parents to support your pupils' personal and social skills and overall well-being;
- How to build and facilitate a strong learning community for parents focusing on Holistic Education, Playful Learning, and well-being.

Day 5 – How to plan community engagement

- Analyzing the contexts;
- Making a plan;
- Activity: Make your school take action.





Day 6 – Course closure and cultural activities

- Course evaluation: round-up of acquired competencies, feedback, and discussion.
- Awarding of the course Certificate of Attendance.
- Excursion and other external cultural activities.

*The schedule describes likely activities but may differ significantly based on the requests of the participants, and the trainer delivering the specific session. Course modifications are subject to the trainer's discretion. If you would like to discuss a specific topic, please indicate it at least 4 weeks in advance.

Our courses usually include two cultural activities. Further information is available on the webpage of each course location.

About the provider

With more than 250 courses available all over Europe and more than 12.000 participants per year, Europass is the largest network of high-quality providers of teacher training courses.

In every Europass Academy, trainers of diverse experiences and backgrounds are ready to foster human and professional connections among educators, all while delivering high-quality, innovative courses.

Furthermore, thanks to the hands-on, collaborative nature of the Europass courses, plenty of opportunities to start new projects and lifelong friendships are given.

Explore other Europass courses, visit www.teacheracademy.eu

