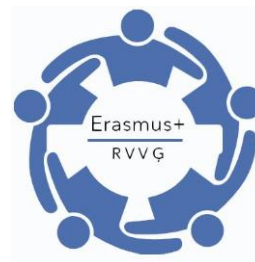


## “Erasmus+ akreditētais mobilitātes projekts RRVĢ skolēniem un personālam”



The Riga State German Grammar School was founded in 1921.

**Motto:** Englisch ist ein Muss, Deutsch ist ein Plus!

Since 1962, the Gymnasium has been offering an advanced foreign language programme in German, and since 2008 - in English. Since 1997, the Gymnasium has been a centre for the Second Level Diploma in German (Deutsches Sprachdiplom). In 2010, the school was granted the status of a state grammar school.

As of 1st September 2020, the Gymnasium implements the second stage of primary education (grades 7-9) with higher expected results in the field of languages (English or German) and the general secondary education (grades 10-12) programme with optional fields of study: human and environment, economy and entrepreneurship, information technology, society and culture.

The Gymnasium pupils' diverse skills are characterised by a solid knowledge of science and mathematics, German for all pupils at the secondary stage, and advanced foreign language learning for all pupils. Each pupil is required to learn at least 3 foreign languages and has the opportunity to participate in learner mobility programmes.

**The motto of the Gymnasium: "A teacher who learns and teaches others. A student who knows his goals at the end of 9th or 12th grade."**



### Contact:

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## Erasmus+ objectives



**1. To promote the development of students' cognitive and social skills in a multicultural environment and to raise awareness of the positive impact of foreign language skills on intercultural communication in the age of globalisation and career choices.**

In-depth foreign language learning is unthinkable without cultural learning, which is why promoting intercultural competence is one of the most important goals of the Gymnasium, which involves promoting multilingualism and intercultural experiences through international mobility and exchange projects and foreign language learning at the highest level for all students, which will have a positive impact on their future academic (study) or professional (work) paths.

**2. Develop knowledge and skills that promote sustainable development and lifestyles and ensure sustainable consumption patterns.**



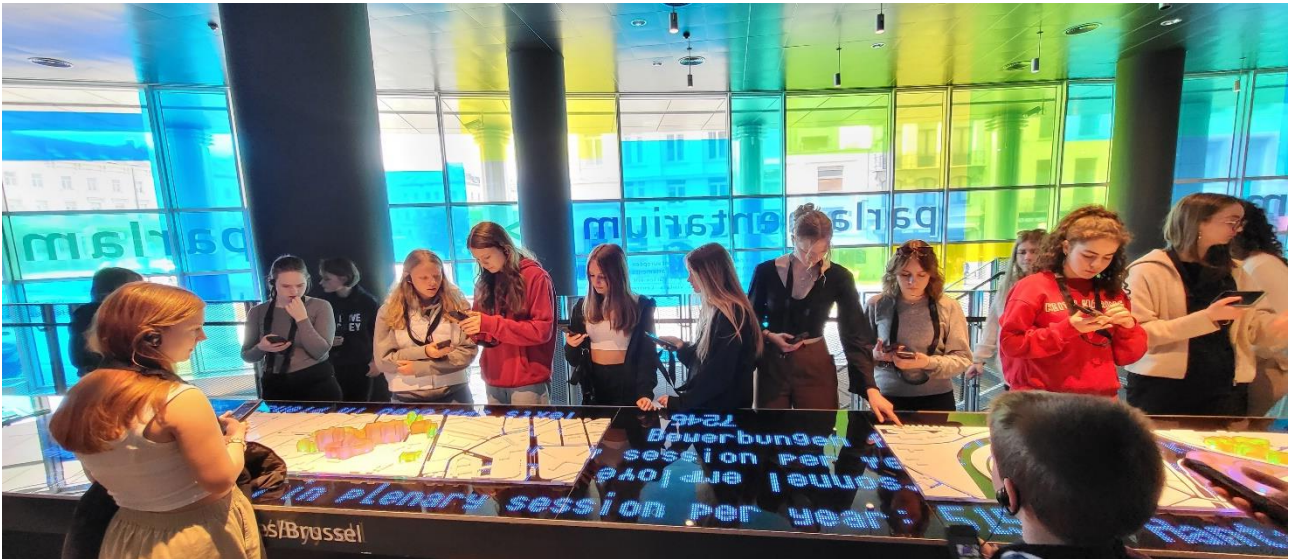
Educating students about sustainable development and lifestyles, creating awareness of cultural diversity and the contribution of culture to sustainable development, and raising students' awareness of the importance of sustainable development and conscious and responsible consumption is one of the priorities of the Gymnasium. Urban beekeeping, which is being developed at the school, gives pupils the challenge to try their hand at beekeeping, to engage in scientific research, to see sustainability in the context of urban development, to preserve green spaces, which are important factors for the existence

of bee colonies in urbanised areas, and to learn new skills that can be useful in real life or in their studies, as the school also offers an education programme "Man and the Environment".



### **3. To improve the digital competence of students and teachers to effectively implement the new curriculum by using IT tools for curriculum planning, guidance and assessment.**

Developing the key areas of digital literacy (information literacy, digital content creation, communication and collaboration, safety and problem solving) is also a priority for both students and teachers. With globalisation and the rapid development of information technologies, data security risks are a growing concern, so it is important for everyone not only to acquire digital literacy but also to update and practice it in projects that involve further research into a topic and the collection, search, visualisation and presentation of information using digital tools.



### **4. To improve teachers' professional competences in order to implement the new approach to teaching and to ensure a high-quality learning process.**

Another priority is the development of teachers' professional competences to promote the development of students' basic competences, skills and value-based habits of mind in the learning process that leads to literacy. Teachers' learning is closely linked to the implementation of an interdisciplinary approach and the use of CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) in the teaching process. In order for the impact of teacher learning to be effectively felt in the content and support provided to students, it is essential to study and compare the approaches of other teachers, other schools and other countries in transferring academic knowledge to real-life situations and to future competitiveness.



Co-funded by  
European Union  
Erasmus+ programme



**ERASMUS+ KA121 Single Beneficiary Project (AGREEMENT NO 2021-1-LV01-KA121-SCH-000018606)**

**Project duration: 1st September 2021 - 31st August 2023**

**Title: 'Erasmus+ accredited mobility project for RVVG students and staff'**

**Project coordinator: Ina Baumane**

**Achievable results:**

**For students:**

- improve communication skills in foreign languages;
- improve their foreign language achievement, which will be reflected in their confidence, which they will express both to other schoolmates when presenting the results and personal benefits of the project, and in their individual academic achievement dynamics (e.g. exam results);
- define intercultural differences as cultural values in the learning process and be able to use this knowledge to foster further cooperation between partner organisations;
- use the digital skills developed in the learning process and demonstrate a higher level of digital literacy;
- make informed decisions about their future career (studies or vocational training), as evidenced by the compilation of the future educational paths of students who have already graduated from the grammar school in the school history.

**For teachers:**

- Gain experience and learn new, innovative methods and techniques by hosting and delivering lessons in partner organisations;
- collect examples of good practice from international events;
- improve the planning and delivery of their teaching using a variety of methods, the CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) approach, and offer lesson observations to colleagues in order to pass on their experience;
- publish their experience on the school website and disseminate it outside their organisation;
- organise workshops, seminars or learning groups to share their experiences and practical tips and receive feedback on the usefulness of the content.

## Partner organisations

### Germany:



**Lessing-Gymnasium Berlin-Mitte**



**Städtisches  
Stiftsgymnasium  
Xanten**



### Austria:



**Gymnasium der Stiftung  
Theresianische Akademie Wien**



### Implemented project mobilities

Type of activity	Time and place	Participants	Welcoming partners in Latvia
<b>Long-term learning mobility for students</b>	4 April - 20 June 2022 Städtisches Stiftsgymnasium Xanten	2 students (10th/11th grades) German 1st foreign language	-
	16 April - 18 June 2023 Städtisches Stiftsgymnasium Xanten	2 students (11th grade) German 1st foreign language	-
	16 April - 18 June 2023 Weser Gymnasium Vlotho	1 student (10th grade) German 1st foreign language	-
	17 April - 19 June 2023 Gymnasium der Stiftung Theresianische Akademie Wien	2 students (11th grade) German 2nd foreign language	-
<b>Student group mobilities</b>	3-10 March 2023 Tellkampfschule Hannover	15 students (10th grade) English	28 November - 2 December 2022
	17-23 April 2023 Städtisches Stiftsgymnasium Xanten	15 students (8th grade) English 7 students (11th grade) German	26 - 30 September 2022
	16-21 April 2023 Lessing Gymnasium Berlin	40 students (8th grade) German	20 - 24 March 2023
	2-10 June 2023 Bernoulli Gymnasium Wien	2 students	24 March - 2 April 2023
<b>Work observation</b>	25 March - 1 April 2022 Weser Gymnasium Vlotho	6 teachers	-
	8 - 11 November 2022 Lessing Gymnasium Berlin	3 teachers	-
<b>Courses</b>	13 - 18 March 2023 Valensija Teacher Akademie	1 teacher	-

## Long-term mobility of students to Germany

4 April - 20 June 2022

### Städtisches Stiftsgymnasium Xanten



From 4 April to 20 June 2022, RVVG students Nikola Elīna Sauja (11.EU) and Aleksandra Neimane (10.VI) studied at the Xantene City Gymnasium. During the programme, they took all the German language courses, which contributed to the development of their German language knowledge and skills, as well as participated in various projects and study excursions that broadened their horizons and improved their cognitive, social and communicative competences. It was a new and valuable experience for both Erasmus+ mobility participants.

**Foto:** Nicholas and Alexandra in the Xantene Archaeological Park

**Nikola:** "The Erasmus+ mobility experience helped me to see the world from a different perspective, for example by learning about host family values, communicating with German friends and travelling. I also went on very frequent excursions to other cities such as Düsseldorf, Cologne, Bonn, Duisburg, etc.

I had very supportive teachers at school who encouraged me to improve my language skills and helped me to fit in with the class. In addition, I gained inspiration and confidence because my host family supported me and gave me valuable advice on further studies, everyday life, family relations and other areas. It was an honour to be one of 5 children in a decent German family that is involved in livestock farming."

**Aleksandra:** "I had a specific goal for applying for the learning mobility to Germany: to speak German with native speakers, to understand them, to integrate into their daily lives, to get to know their culture and experience what it is like to live with a host family, as well as to talk about our country and its linguistic features. In Xanten, I lived with a family with a girl my age and went to school with her and got involved in the learning process, which contributed to the development of my German language skills. I have also taken part in various projects and study trips which have broadened my horizons."



## Erasmus+ Inspiration stop



RVVG student Nikola Elīna Sauja (12.EU) and Aleksandra Neimane (11.VI) 4 March 2023 at the exhibition ated in the Inspiration Stop programme at the VIAA stand, where talked about their Erasmus+ long-term mobility experience in Xanten (Germany) and inspired other young people to take advantage of this Erasmus+ opportunity, as studying in German or English, study excursions, daily life in a host family, communication with and getting to know a culture - **these are enduring values, that motivate you even more to learn foreign languages, become more active in social life and move towards their goals.**



*Photo by Nikola Elīna Sauja and Aleksandra Neimane talk about their experiences and answer questions.*



Nikola is confidently moving towards her goals - she has successfully passed the DSD II exam at C1 level and won a DAAD scholarship to study in Germany, making her dream a reality.

Alexandra still has a year to study and will also take the DSD II exam. Both students say that studying in Germany was a great opportunity for their development.



## Long-term mobility of students to Germany

16 April - 18 June 2023

Städtisches Stiftsgymnasium Xanten un Weser-Gymnasium Vlotho



*Beāte Šterna (11.EU) and Līva Ungure (11.VI)  
near the Xantene Gymnasium*



*Beāte and Līva In Düsseldorf*



*Anete Arāja (10.SA)  
at the Weser Gymnasium in Floto*



*Anete with a host family in Berlin*

**Beāte:**

"My stay in Xanten was very fast and interesting - the trips with my host family and my friends at school made the time fly by. My family and I went on excursions around Xanten and to the nearby cities of Wesel, Winterswijk and Düsseldorf. Xanten has a great range of museums and beautiful surroundings for hiking and cycling.

The education system is very different from the Latvian school system. For example, while we have a 40-minute lesson, here the lesson lasts 60 minutes with a 6-minute break. After the third lesson, students go out of the school premises for a longer break (30 minutes) to have a quick lunch. The German Gymnasium does not have the usual classroom of 30 or 27 classmates you meet every day, but has a total of 80 students in the 11th year group or Q1, who have opted for advanced courses/lessons at the beginning of the school term. Each student can choose the courses they are interested in and the school creates a list of lessons suitable for them. Therefore, in each lesson you may meet different people in the classroom from all 80 pupils in the Q1 course/class. Also in the sports classes you can choose a specialisation that interests you. It should be noted that exams or clauses are held regularly here and students struggle to achieve high results in order to go to university. There are currently 12 classes, but from 2025 there will be 13 classes.

Like us, Xanten Gymnasium has special days when you can go on excursions. Here it was 16 June - Wandertag - when all 80 of the course split into smaller groups and go on a field trip."

**Līva:** "I really appreciated the opportunity to go to Germany to study at the Gymnasium Xanten. I got used to the new situation quite quickly. I lived on a farm a little outside the city. The host family was open and eager to help me improve my German language skills. In my free time I took part in various activities with my host family, bowling and mini-golfing, and we went to see several nearby cities - Düsseldorf, Duisburg, Wesel and Nijmegen.

At school, the teachers and students were friendly and supportive. I participated in the lessons like all the other pupils, but I didn't have to write homework. At the end of the school year, my class and I went on a field trip to Oberhausen, Germany.

I recommend that young people take advantage of this opportunity, because living with a host family and studying abroad not only improves foreign language skills and broadens horizons, but also helps them to become more independent and take charge of their own affairs."

**Anete:** "The first weeks were not easy. At first we spoke English with my family, but after that it was mostly German. The host family was very understanding, nice and supportive. They motivated me to speak German and listened to me if I couldn't do it as accurately and quickly. I am also very happy that I live in a family with two different cultures, so I have the opportunity to get to know not only German culture but also Japanese culture.

The school was also a bit different from Latvia. I went to a grammar school, so all the pupils took school seriously. Classes started at 7:45 and finished at 15:50. Each lesson lasted 45 minutes, there was a 5 minute break after the first lesson and 20 minutes after the second lesson where all the students had to go out, so this pattern was repeated. In my class or course there were about 70 pupils, almost every lesson there were other young people and the number varied. All the pupils were diligently preparing for the tests or 'clauses' both at school and at home. These tests usually did not even take place during the fixed hours, but in the morning. All the teachers I met were very supportive and nice. As I live in the countryside (which would not look like the countryside in Latvia) I often went for walks or jogs in the woods with my family, and on weekends we went hiking, played board games or watched films. I've also been to bigger cities like Hannover, Minden, Bad Oienhausen, Bielefeld, Essen, Dortmund and Berlin, and went to the Hannover Opera with my music class."

**Long-term mobility of students to Austria**  
17 April - 19 June 2023  
**Gymnasium der Stiftung Theresianische Akademie Wien**



*Alise Slaviete (11.CV) and Austra Krone (11.SA)  
at the Theresian Academy*

The Theresian Academy teaches a variety of languages, such as English, French, Latin and others, and offers additional courses to improve your language skills. Classes start at 8am and the school day can run until 5 or 6pm, depending on the extra courses, the number of classes and homework. One lesson lasts 50 minutes.

The school is very committed to giving students the opportunity to express themselves and offers a variety of after-school activities. There are music rooms where you can learn piano, guitar or other instruments on your own or with a private teacher, use the sports facilities or go to the school swimming pool. You can also take part in sports competitions.



*Alise and Austra at Belvedere Castle*



Living in a hostel was a new experience for **Alise** and **Austra**.

The hostel is connected to the school and only international students or those living outside Vienna live there. The hostel has everything you need to live and study. There is a timetable to follow.

**Austra:** "The experience is definitely different from living with a host family, but I think that's a positive thing.

The hostel has students of different nationalities, so I didn't only interact with Austrians. I shared my room with a Hungarian and a Romanian. Most of the students (including the foreign ones) spoke German.

Although I spent a lot of time listening to German on a daily basis, it took extra lessons to build up my vocabulary. The school offered such lessons - Deutschkurs - once a week. Every Monday, Alice and I spent two hours studying, after which we were given assignments for the following week. I found these lessons very useful because German was taught at a level that I could follow and understand."

**Alise:** "The first two weeks were very difficult, as I had to get used not only to a new place, but also to the language, the culture, the way of learning, etc., but there were helpful and understanding people around me, which only motivated me to learn more.

During the first week we were introduced to the classroom, we could get to know more about the school and the boarding house.

I improved my language in different ways - talking to others and listening in lessons, watching German videos and playing my favourite German game, as well as buying 2 books, one of which I have already read. I learnt a lot in the German courses because we need to speak and the teacher helped us with vocabulary, corrected grammar mistakes and gave us homework exercises."



*Alise and Austra in Mozart's music concert*

**Alise and Austra** have enjoyed their studies at the Vienna Theresian Academy, as they have improved their German language skills and acquired new knowledge, got to know Vienna and broadened their horizons about Austria, gained intercultural experience and developed their communication and social skills.

In your free time, there were plenty of opportunities to enjoy the city's culture and take part in excursions organised by the school. Visits included Graz, Austria's 2nd largest city, the UN Centre in Vienna and the War History Museum, a classical music concert at the Vienna Concert Hall, Schönbrunn, the palace where Maria Theresa lived, the Vienna Technical Museum, St. The Vienna Cathedral, St. Stephen's Cathedral, St. Charles Church and Square, the Hofburg, the Prater and many other places. Vienna offered excellent cultural and leisure opportunities.

## Student group mobility

The mobility's aim is to improve foreign language skills, provide educational opportunities in a multicultural environment, develop communication and social skills, explore intercultural communication and possible future career opportunities.

### Mobility of a group of students to Hannover

**Tellkampfschule Hannover**

**3-10 March 2023**

**Participants:** 15 students from 10th grade

**Teachers:** Dace Zunda and Inguna Serda



RVVG group of students



Participants from all countries at the City Council

Together with students from Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, Poland and France, our grammar school students worked in 10 workshops in art, music, sports, culture, biology and social sciences. They could choose their field, as each workshop had a different task. One group documented the week and made a video, while another group discussed the pros and cons of living, studying and working in another country. In the art workshop, a collaborative artwork was created, and in the biology workshop, a bee house. One group also focused on water and water scarcity in different countries. Musical young people had the opportunity to work in a music workshop, forming a band and playing 3 popular songs in their own arrangement, while another workshop choreographed a dance. Young people had the opportunity to learn about and compare sports and to work in teams to learn about some of them. At the end of the project, the results were presented.

The students also spent a lot of time with the host families, had the opportunity to get to know the family's daily life, and visited sights and museums in Hannover. Hamburg was also explored during the study trip.

The students said that the project had provided them with valuable experience, new friends and a different culture.



*Work in groups*



*Presenting workshop results*



*Student group in Hamburg*

Students' opinion:

"Erasmus+ is an unforgettable experience and an adventure, it's about new friends, new discoveries, improving your foreign language skills and living outside your comfort zone, but it's certainly not difficult to adapt to. These are positive emotions that we want everyone to experience.

We are grateful for this opportunity!"



**Student group mobility to Xanten**  
**Städtisches Gymnasium Xanten**  
**17-23 April 2023**

**Participants:** 15 students (8th grade) and 7 students (11th grade)

**Teachers:** Elīna Beča, Juliane Hannelore Kaup and Māris Apsītis

During the project, the students took part in the Grammar School's teaching process, visited the city of Xanten and the town hall, met the mayor and visited the nearby town of Aachen and its breathtaking cathedral. A full day was devoted to a study trip to Brussels, the capital of Belgium, where pupils had the opportunity to explore one of the European Parliament buildings and visit the EP Chamber. On the same day, students visited the European Parliament's Visitors' Centre "Parlamentarium", Europe's largest centre dedicated to parliamentary activities. There, students learned many interesting facts about the European Union and beyond. Throughout the project, the Year 11 pupils worked hard in groups with the German pupils to prepare for the final discussion on the topic "Germany and Latvia - common roots and common heritage in Europe". The project concluded with a successful discussion. Before flying away, the students had the opportunity to explore Cologne and its main attraction - the Cologne Cathedral.

The benefits of the project included intercultural experiences, broadening of horizons, new friends made, as well as the development of foreign language, social and communication skills.



*Study lesson - discussion*



*German language lesson*



*8<sup>th</sup> grade students learn facts about Xanteni*



*11<sup>th</sup> grade student group*





*Visit the Town Hall. Mayor of Xanten Thomas Görtz with a group of students and teachers*



*Learn bread baking skills in the bakery*



*Up in the windmill*





*In the Chamber of Parliament*



*Educational activities in the Parliamentarium*



*Student group at the European Parliament*

"I had a great experience. Xanten is a small, lovely town with a legend about the hero Siegfried, which we learned more about at the Siegfried Museum.  
The most impressive experience for me was the trip to Brussels, where we were able to see the European Parliament and the Parliamentarium as part of the project.  
At the end of the project we had a discussion about Europe. It was very interesting and I tried to get involved as much as possible. I am very happy about this experience!"

(Annija Anna Kļave, 11.SA)





Students explore the pages of history by visiting Aachen, where they take a guided tour of the Aachen Cathedral and Archaeological Museum, as well as explore the Old Town.



**Charlemagne's signature:**  
used this seal instead of a signature because he couldn't





**Mobility of a group of students to Berlin**  
**Lessing-Gymnasium Berlin-Mitte**  
**16-21 April 2023**

**Participants:** 40 students (8th grade)

**Teachers:** Daiga Gotfrīda, Uģis Urtāns, Agnese Grāvīte

The aim of the project was to raise students' awareness of German culture, to get to know the sights of Berlin, to improve and use their knowledge of German in everyday life, to get to know the Lessing Gymnasium and the daily life of German students, to participate in workshops with German young people and to develop a project about the sights around Berlin.

At the Lessing Gymnasium, students worked in small groups with German students to develop a project on a particular landmark: they researched, analysed and compiled information, went to see the site together and then made a poster. The final evening of the joint project included a presentation of the projects on Berlin's sights, as well as the premiere of a film about sights in Riga made by Latvian students. At the end of the evening, both Latvian and German young people joined together in joint activities and enjoyed a feast prepared by the parents of the German young people.

During the project, the pupils walked along the famous Unter den Linden from the Brandenburg Gate to Alexanderplatz, visited the zoo and the World Gardens, enjoyed the Berlin skyline from the TV tower, explored the medieval history of Dungeon Berlin and went behind the scenes of film-making at the Babelsberg Film Park.

The students confirm that the project has definitely provided them with valuable experiences, new friends and an insight into another culture, as one participant concludes: "When I signed up for this project, I did not expect to have gained so much when I came back. If it were possible, I would definitely do it again because it was a really unique experience."



*Group of students at the Berlin Lessing Gymnasium*





*A group of schoolchildren at the entrance to Berlin Zoo*



*Work in groups*



*Results - posters about the attractions*



**Mobility of a group of students to Austria**  
**Bernoulli Gymnasium**  
**2 - 10 June 2023**

**Participants:** Elza Gadmane (10.SA)  
Līva Mālere (10.EI)

**Teacher:** Elīna Beča

**Elza and Līva** are pleased with their experience:



"The Erasmus+ mobility was a fantastic opportunity for us to get to know new people, culture and improve our German language skills. We studied subjects such as music, biology, Spanish, Italian, German and English, chemistry and religion. We got to know the school and its surroundings. Living with host families was a very valuable and interesting experience, we could get to know their life and talk about different topics. An unforgettable experience was the Viennese amusement park, where we



experienced the everyday life of young Austrians and got to know their spoken language, which is rich in Anglicisms and different from the standard language we learn at school.

Vienna is a wonderful city that impressed us with its impressive buildings, we explored the city centre and its landmarks, visited the aquarium and the zoo.

We will definitely remember this fantastic experience and keep in touch with our new friends and hope to meet them again."



Elza during the break



Elza and Līva discovering Vienna





**Work shadowing**  
**Weser-Gymnasium Vlotho**  
**25 March - 1 April 2022**

**6 teachers** took part in the job shadowing at the Gymnasium in Weser:

Gundega Muceniece (Director, German teacher), Ieva Mezīte (Music), Elīna Beča (German teacher), Jolanta Voina (English teacher, Social Studies teacher), Santa Jansone (German teacher), Uģis Urtāns (English teacher).

Guido Höltke, Director of the Gymnasium Weser, presented the education system of North Rhine-Westphalia to the RVVG teachers. After discussions and clarification of questions of interest, lessons were observed for four working days in order to gain experience on the conduct of lessons, the role of the teacher, student involvement, methodological approaches, the use of digital tools and assessment in the teaching process. The working week ended with a discussion with the heads of the teaching areas on the pedagogical experience gained in the Gymnasium in Weser in comparison with the pedagogical work in our Gymnasium.

Lessons learned and conclusions of RVVG teachers after observing lessons at the Gymnasium in Weser:

- as part of the school's digitisation project, all teachers and pupils have been provided with tablets for use in their teaching, both at school and at home;
- lessons are student-centred, with the teacher organising and guiding the learning process, and students largely learning new material independently;
- in the learning process, the teacher asks open questions, encourages discussion, does not express opinions, invites students to summarise, evaluate and decide, to arrive at the right answer, to learn in a self-directed way;
- the expression of pupils' opinions in lessons contributes to a better understanding and retention of the material;
- each lesson, the teacher assesses each pupil's engagement in discussions on the subject; during the semester, pupils receive a mark for their oral engagement in lessons;
- the semester assessment consists of two test papers and one oral assessment.



Mindene Dome Museum



Exchange of experience with training managers

**Work shadowing**  
**Lessing Gymnasium Berlin-Mitte**  
**9-11 November 2022**



From 9 to 11 November 2022, Berlin Lessing Gymnasium hosted the work shadowing mobility of Inga Riekstiņa, Deputy Director and mathematics teacher, Ina Baumanė, Education Methodologist, Erasmus+ Project Coordinator, Head of Languages and German teacher, and Daiga Gotfrīda, Head of German language sub-area and German teacher (1st photo from the left). The teachers observed lessons in different subjects, familiarised themselves with the Berlin education system, talked to colleagues about teaching methods, planned future student exchange projects, as well as teacher team building and peer observation.

Photo 2: RVVG teachers with Britta Boberg, Head of the Language Commission and Project Coordinator at Berlin Lessing Gymnasium.



## Professional development courses in Valencia

### Teacher Academy Valencia

13 - 18 March 2023

From 13 to 18 March, RVVG mathematics teacher and head of mathematics Inguna Serda participated in the professional development course "Using social media and platforms in the learning process" within the Erasmus+ project in Valencia, Spain. The course was organised by Teacher Academy, Europe's largest teacher training centre. Participants from Latvia, Bulgaria and Germany learned how to use social media creatively to organise the learning process, while being aware of and mitigating the risks that digital technologies bring to our lives. Participants were introduced to different websites and tools for designing and differentiating lessons and had the opportunity to use them in practice. The knowledge gained will be useful in complementing the daily teaching process by using social media and the platforms introduced during the course, as well as in sharing the experience with colleagues in their Gymnasium.



## Erasmus+ experience stories

Project participants share their experiences and talk about the project and its activities to 7th, 9th and 10th graders in the Grammar School's assembly hall. The students used a presentation and a video to visualise their story. The 8th grade group of the Xantene project also prepared a Kahoot to activate communication and broaden students' horizons.



*Students present the objectives and opportunities of the Erasmus+ project*



*Participants of the Hanover mobility talk about the benefits of the project*





*Xanten mobility participants talk about attending lessons*



*8th grade students engage the audience in a Kahoot game about what they heard*



*11th grade students talk about their experience at Xantene Gymnasium*

"Having a stranger from another country come and live with me is an experience I will never forget. I was very excited about hosting him in Latvia. I didn't know what would be best for my pupil, what food would taste better and what would interest him, but once I got to know him, we became friends and my fears quickly disappeared.

Going to Germany didn't worry me at all. In Hannover I felt like a real local. A big reason for this is my exchange family, who took good care of me and immediately accepted me as one of their own. Seeing the old town, tasting new foods and talking to the locals, I got to know their culture, which is in many ways both similar and completely different to ours.

Definitely my biggest gain from Erasmus+ is not only getting to know a new culture, but also meeting other young people and improving my foreign language skills."

(Lauma Lūsvere, 10.EU)

"For me personally, this project has been a valuable experience, learning about the teaching process and culture of the Xantene Gymnasium, as well as about the pages of history. Xanten is a nice town with a quite long and rich history. What I liked most was that there was a museum, which is like a partially reconstructed city of the Roman Empire, which used to be right on the border of what is now Xantene, but after the fall of Rome, the city was also demolished. The project included visits to cities such as Cologne, Aachen and Brussels and visits to Cologne City Hall and the European Parliament. As well as sightseeing, we had many educational excursions to learn about the history of these cities, for example in Aachen we were told about its links with Charlemagne, who was a very important figure in the creation of central Europe. A nice bonus of this project was that I got to taste local specialities such as Brussels frisee and waffles, Currywurst, Berliner doughnuts, etc."

(Edvards Pogrebņaks, 11.CV)

"I really enjoyed my Erasmus+ project because I made a lot of new friends and we visited famous and well-known places in and around Berlin, like the zoo, the TV Tower, Alexanderplatz and the Brandenburg Gate. I also really enjoyed working on the project with the students from the Lesing Gymnasium."

(Marta Saleniece, 8.d)

"I got a lot out of going to the Lesing Gymnasium because there we had to speak German with Germans with whom we had a joint project. I learnt a lot of new German words that I can now use in my own conversation."

(Kamilla Kibiša, 8.b)

"The project was valuable and exciting. During the project I got to know Berlin, its history and everyday life, and got to know German young people better. The most memorable part is the time spent with my peers, now new friends. The project itself with the German children allowed us to demonstrate and practice our knowledge of the German language, which will benefit our development."

(Linete Vētra, 8.a)