

visit <http://www.almondvoclink.co.uk/>

Almond Vocational Link

Achievement through partnerships



OUR SERVICES





Welcome to Almond Vocational Link Ltd. We are a private UK non-profit organisation based in the picturesque coastal city of Plymouth, Devon (South West of England). In January 2015 we celebrated our 8th anniversary of working on EU funded projects with Vocational Schools, Universities and NGO's from across Europe. Over the years, Almond Vocational Link has established itself as a reliable, professional and trustworthy project partner who values its business partner's needs and expectations. Our experienced and multicultural team put all their efforts to ensure everything runs smoothly throughout your stay. Almond Vocational Link is a caring organisation with a personal and friendly approach. We offer bespoke package, tailor made to meet the project requirements and your group's needs.

Our European Project Manager – Mrs Janet Wonnacott has nearly 20 years of experience of working with international students who come to Plymouth, UK in order to enhance their studies, improve English and enjoy a Great British cultural experience.

During the last eight years we have been involved in Leonardo da Vinci programmes that promote and support mobility for Initial Vocational Training (**IVT**) and People in the Labour Market (**PLM**). We hosted thousands of Leonardo da Vinci participants who wanted to better their lives and increase chances on the labour market by participating in work experience mobilities.

What can we do for you?



**Erasmus Plus KA 1
Mobility of Students**

**Erasmus Plus KA 2
Mobility of Staff**

**Erasmus Plus KA 2
Partnerships**

**Private and Other
Government Funding**

Almond Vocational Link Ltd ,
City Business Park, Somerset Place, Plymouth, Devon, PL3 4BB. Registered Company Number 6940166
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Erasmus Plus Key Action 1 Mobility of Students

Who is it for?

Students in Vocational Educational Training Schools, Higher Education, and Adult Education who would like to take part in a work experience placement matched to the area of studies for a period of minimum 3 weeks.

Services can we provide for you:

- ✓ Initial consultations and Skype interview in order to assess the participant's knowledge of English, our support and advice prior to arrival
- ✓ Unpaid work experience placements suited to the participant's area of studies.
- ✓ Host family accommodation on full board, half board and self catering basis.
- ✓ English language lessons to prepare you for your work experience
- ✓ Airport transfer
- ✓ Local transport passes
- ✓ Cultural trips and social meetings
- ✓ Greeting you on arrival followed by a welcome meeting on the next day and a tour of Plymouth
- ✓ Support and monitoring throughout the stay including 1:1 meetings and a 24/7 emergency phone line
- ✓ Preparing Europasses and any other documentation required by the project

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Erasmus Plus Key Action 1 Mobility for Staff

Who is it for?

Funded by EACEA's (Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency) Erasmus Plus Key Action 1 –International Study Programmes for Teacher and Staff Development. The mobility study programmes are aimed to increase competences of staff and teachers in schools, nurseries, educational organisations, training centres, vocational educational training centres, universities and adult education establishments. The purpose of the projects is to raise qualifications by undertaking relevant training and participating in study visits to establish best practices.

Services can we provide for you:

- ✓ Initial consultations towards building an appropriate visit schedule
- ✓ Completing all the necessary project documentation
- ✓ Accommodation in Hotel or Bed and Breakfast
- ✓ Cultural trips
- ✓ Airport transfers
- ✓ Local transport passes
- ✓ Greeting on arrival , a welcome meeting on the next day and a tour of Plymouth
- ✓ Profiled English language training i.e. business, science, ICT or general English lessons
- ✓ Study visits to relevant organisations, educational outlets and businesses
- ✓ Training courses in local training centres, certificate ceremony on completion
- ✓ Support and monitoring thought the stay including access to 24/7 emergency phone line

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Erasmus Plus Key Action 2 Partnerships

Who is it for?

Non Governmental Organisations, training centres, schools, vocational educational training, higher education, adult education providers

Services can we provide for you:

- ✓ Our expertise in providing well matched work experience placements to students from across the Europe
- ✓ As an English language school we provide a variety of courses and an exam preparation service to local people, project partners and participants
- ✓ Our experience in coordinating a very successful Grundtvig project
- ✓ We were a partner for a number of high profile projects promoting education, staff training and establishing code of best practice. Please take a look at our project portfolio on our website. www.almondvoclink.co.uk

If you are seeking UK partner to work with on your Erasmus+ KA1 or KA2 project, please do not hesitate to get in touch, our European Project Manager Mrs Janet Wonnacott will happily answer your enquiries. Please visit our website and take a look at our current project portfolio <http://www.almondvoclink.co.uk/projects/>

Over the years we have also managed to receive lots of very valuable feedback, please take a look at the testimonials left by our project partners, students and University Erasmus+ Coordinators <http://www.almondvoclink.co.uk/testimonials/>

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Groups privately funded or funded from other government schemes

Who is it for?

Students and staff from all educational establishments who are interested in building their own package focusing on English language training, cultural trips, work experience (minimum 3 weeks), training courses or study visits. All packages must include our accommodation.

Services can we provide for you:

- ✓ Initial consultations towards building an appropriate package for your group.
- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Cultural trips
- ✓ Work experience
- ✓ English language training: profiled, general English, exam preparation
- ✓ Airport transfers
- ✓ Local transport passes
- ✓ Greeting you on arrival followed by a welcome meeting on the next day and a tour of Plymouth
- ✓ Support and monitoring throughout the stay including 1:1 meetings and a 24/7 emergency phone line
- ✓ Completing all the necessary documentation

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English Language Training

The guarantee of an effective language course is always a good balance. A combination of useful theory and practice will ensure that learners achieve their specific goals and make fast progress. We strive to find the ideal blend of teaching methods and programmes to show evident results. Our qualified teachers apply principles of modern language training approaches based on highly recognised TEFL methods, as well as Montessori methodology.



My Language Training was very fun, useful and enjoyable. The teacher really knew how to push you to learn and the lessons were really involving. I feel more confident about my pronunciation."

By Alessandro

We offer a selection of courses to enable the learner:

- ✓ To improve English for better career prospects
- ✓ To study English for pleasure
- ✓ To use English for travelling

We offer courses at the following levels:

- ✓ Beginner (A1)
- ✓ Elementary (A2)
- ✓ Intermediate (B1)
- ✓ Upper-intermediate (B2)
- ✓ Advanced (C1)

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I really liked the language training. My teacher was really kind. If there was something I didn't understand, she told me again and all the lessons were really interesting."

Federica

English language training can be provided for all those undertaking a work experience placement, visiting for a KA1 staff training project or coming to the UK to take part in one of our cultural programmes.

General English lessons are of particular benefit before or during a work placement/internship as they provide a good foundation in the type of language encountered in a work situation. We would also recommend these lessons if your language skills are adequate, yet you feel your confidence would benefit from additional training. The teachers that we employ have extensive knowledge of teaching English as a second language (ESOL & EFL) and are flexible in adapting the language training to suit the requirements of the various members of the group. All of our teachers hold TESOL or CELTA diploma.

At Almond Vocational Link we feel that there are great benefits to group sessions enabling you to improve your ability to speak, listen, and extend your knowledge of vocabulary and grammar as well as your writing and reading skills. We can also offer other courses related to specific areas such as Business English, if required, and facilitate working towards qualifications in English such as Cambridge or IELTS.

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Learn English



Our classroom courses

General English – preparation for work experience

- Maximum class size: 10
- Average class size: 8
- Recommended number of hours: 15-21
- Minimum level requirement: B1
- Designed to complement the work placement/internship and develop speaking, writing, reading and listening skills
- Areas covered: grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation in the context of useful topics (travelling, hospitality, culture, work situations)

IELTS Exam preparation

- Designed to train the learner to achieve the ability to perform well at the exam under the pressure of time
- To achieve the desired IELTS band
- Areas covered: expanding academic vocabulary, assessment of learner's progress according to the criteria
- Designed to train the learner to be able to perform well at the exam under the pressure of time and achieve the desired IELTS band
- Areas covered: expanding academic vocabulary, assessment of learner's progress according to the criteria

CAE Exam preparation

- Designed to familiarise the learner with the exam format and enable them to achieve required exam grade
- Areas covered: extending the vocabulary defined by the exam, evaluation of progress according to the criteria

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Business English

- Maximum class size: 10
- Average class size: 8
- Recommended number of hours: 15-30
- Minimum level requirement: B2
- Designed to improve fluency in business communication
- Areas covered: business presentations, meetings, emails, letters, telephone conversations, negotiations, interviews, networking, marketing and sales

Profiled courses - private tutorial (One to one)

- Recommended number of hours: 15-30
- All levels
- Focus on specific areas according to the need of the learner

Summer Camps – cultural trips

- Minimum group size: 25
- Duration: 7-14 days
- Minimum age: 16
- All levels
- Cultural trips in the afternoon - optional

Conversation

A great opportunity to practise English speaking skills and develop fluency is our Language Café. It is an informal get-together for speakers at all levels. The idea of these meetings is to provide an opportunity to converse with native speakers, as well as with other learners of English language, in a relaxed and supportive environment.

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Testimonials



The students are really happy with the companies, the accommodation and the experience. You will have more students from Tenerife the next year not only from my school, I have recommended your company to others schools."

Hector, Tenerife



Janet has a very personal way of running her business which, along with an impressive network of contacts in the Plymouth area, makes Almond the right choice if you are looking for internship."

Vasco Corisco, Escola Profissional Valdo Rio, Project Partner, Portugal



Almond itself on behalf of Janet Wonnacott and every single person who is working for Almond are great and positive people. We have started our cooperation in the year 2012 based on the IDUMO Project which is initiated and funded by the European Social Funds and the Ministry of Work and Social Affairs. Through the entire cooperation Almond was always open to manage challenges, motivated to work on new methods and inspiring learners to us. We also learnt a lot about international cooperation and the English lifestyle. It was always a pleasure to work with everyone. We made a varied experience in cooperation with a positive, successful and sustainable impact. Until next time."

Bianca Doesburg, Project coordination IDUMO, IN VIA Köln, Germany



Almond Vocational Link provided us with an amazing cultural, educational experience that I would like to be a part of again in the future."

KA1 mobility study visit for VET professionals – Madalina from Romania.

Almond Vocational Link Ltd ,



Contact us

Please contact us to receive our new information brochures on accommodation, cultural trips, English language training, work experience placements and KA1 staff training courses. Our international team are always happy to help you organise your stay in the UK and make the experience memorable and hassle free.

Please follow us on social media and check our website regularly for most up to date information and news about our recent projects and activities

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