

EVS

BIGGER, BETTER, BRIGHTER

TRAINING COURSE

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, UK

CORRECTED DATES: 6th-14th October 2017



DEAR PARTICIPANT,

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the one-of-a-kind city of Newcastle upon Tyne! We are sure that we will have an interesting and inspiring time. This info-pack will help you prepare for the training, which will take place in Newcastle between 06th–14th of October 2017. Please read it carefully. If you have any additional questions, don't hesitate to contact us. We hope that this TC will be an unforgettable experience for all of us!



Tyne River and two of its 7 bridges in Newcastle: Millennium Bridge and Tyne Bridge

Photo source: tellusthinktank.com

Opportunity



is a Non-governmental, not-for-profit organisation with an aim to inspire, support and empower young people. This is achieved through the three themes of promoting, education and training in healthier lifestyles and greater social cohesion. It delivers programmes in **Youth Development, Youth Leadership, Citizenship and Youth Education**. It also promotes learning through diversionary and informal activities such as sport, media and creative or performing arts.



CONTEXT

- - - - X

The TC “EVS-Bigger, Better, Brighter” aims to enhance the quality of EVS projects through development of essential competences of support persons. It also provides up-to-date information to its participants on the opportunities given by the Erasmus+: Youth in Action Programme. The training course is designed for those who are directly involved in the work around the EVS volunteer (e.g. mentors and task-related support persons) on the hosting, sending and coordinating side. The support people play a crucial role in providing conditions for a quality voluntary service and creating opportunities for volunteer’s learning in EVS.

The project is also an opportunity for reaching out to new partners for future cooperation, for exchanging EVS volunteers and spread our message around the European public sphere.



OBJECTIVES

- - - - X







- To get a better understanding of the concept of EVS as “learning service” and related quality aspects in EVS;
- To improve the ability for co-operation and working in international partnership;
- To reflect on the roles, responsibilities and challenges within the EVS projects;
- To raise awareness of the learning dimension in EVS and provide tools for learning support;
- To support the recognition of non-formal learning in EVS through the competent implementation of Youthpass;
- To provide up-to-date information about the new European programme for youth.

During the training course we will favor a common ground among participants to understand the concept of EVS. We will reflect on its values, reasons, interests and needs of all actors involved. We will support the process of understanding EVS as “learning service”, linked with the concept of European citizenship. The learning dimension of EVS service: EVS is very much about learning – non-formal and informal. It is about acquiring new life experiences, but also gaining new competences – getting new knowledge, improving skills and developing attitudes.

We will go through the different stages of the learning process and you will get acquainted with the concept of Key Competences and Youthpass.

→ PARTICIPANTS PER COUNTRY:



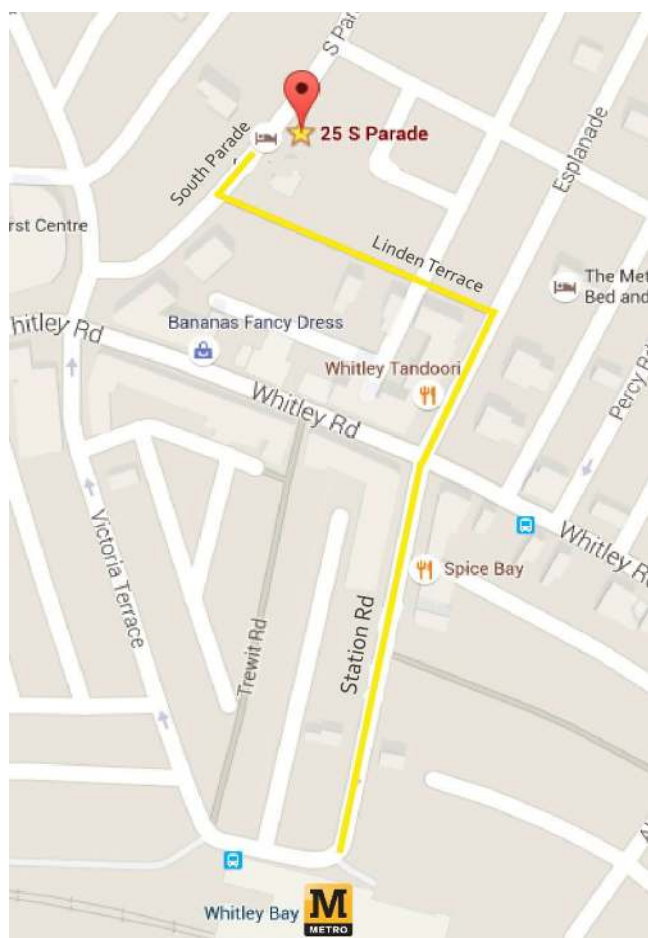
- **Italy: 3 participants** 
- **Estonia: 3 participants** 
- **Romania: 3 participants** 
- **Spain: 3 participants** 
- **Portugal: 3 participants** 
- **Sweden: 3 participants** 
- **Macedonia: 3 participants** 



ACCOMMODATION

----- X

During the whole training course we will stay in a **Hostel** in Whitley Bay, which is a beautiful town located by the sea. All the rooms have 4/6/8 beds with communal shower facilities.



Address of the hostel is 25 South Parade, Whitley Bay, NE26 2RE.

→ **4 minutes walk from Metro Station!** When you will be out of the Metro Station, go straight on Station Rd, which will become Esplanade Rd. Then **TURN LEFT** onto Linden Terrace (is a small pedestrian street). Walk until the end of it and then **TURN RIGHT**. After few meters, on your right, you will find our Hostel!





IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO REMEMBER

- - - - X

Please send all travel details to andreea@opportunityuk.org **BEFORE** you book them so we can plan all the logistical aspects of your arrivals and departures.

Please note that our national buses and trains are very expensive if they are not booked in advance. We recommend the following companies:

Bus:



- National express
- Megabus

TRAIN:



- Virgin East Coast
- Trainline

Remember to bring:



a) flip-flops (slippers) and a towel;

b) cosmetics and personal toiletry items (shampoo, soap, etc.);



c) any medications that you will need;



d) UK adapter for your plugs



e) For the intercultural night: we won't have one, but if you want to bring some of your traditional food, drinks, or share some your favourite music or traditional dances, you are more than welcome to do it, we would like to get to know your country and culture!



TRAVEL BUDGET

- - - - X

- **Italy: 275 EUR** per participant
- **Estonia: 275 EUR** per participant
- **Romania: 360 EUR** per participant
- **Spain: 360 EUR** per participant
- **Portugal: 275 EUR** per participant
- **Sweden: 275 EUR** per participant
- **Macedonia: 360 EUR** per participant

We have allocated one session in the timetable where you will be informed about all relevant details regarding travel reimbursement. Please be aware that reimbursements can take up to **3 months** depending on the length of time it takes ALL participants to send their original boarding passes and travel documents. Opportunity doesn't take any responsibility of any charges occurred by participant personal bank for transferring the money when reimbursing travel. Our National Agency then needs to validate the documents. If you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to speak with a member of the **OpportUNITY** team.

This activity will be carried out thanks to the co-financing received from the Erasmus+ program. We have received a certain amount of

money for travel reimbursement, which depends on the amount of kilometres it will take you to travel from your home to Newcastle upon Tyne. Keep in mind that if the tickets cost more than the allocated amount, we will not be able to cover the difference and it will be your own financial contribution.

Please note! Before booking or buying tickets for the TC, remember that the purpose of participants travelling to Newcastle is to take part in an international project. If you want to come earlier or stay longer, make sure you inform us first, so we can let you know if we will still be able to reimburse the travel. We will be happy to work with you on this project and look forward to hearing from you.

ARRIVAL IN NEWCASTLE/ WHITLEY BAY

- - - - x

- Please inform us of your travel plans before booking. If you do not, we cannot guarantee your full reimbursement.
- You are expected to arrive in Newcastle on 06th October and leave on 14th October 2017.
- If you are planning to stay longer after

the TC or arrive earlier, please inform us **BEFORE** booking your ticket. Otherwise, we cannot guarantee your reimbursement. Please note any indirect routes taken for personal travel **WILL NOT** be reimbursed.

Please note: The Hostel will be open for check in **from 2pm on 06th October 2017**. If you have any problems, make sure you contact us by calling or sending a text to Andreea +44 75 141 74296.

Please contact us if you have any queries in the meantime.

OpportUNITY team,

andreea@opportunityuk.org



GROW WITH OPPORTUNITY

