

Erasmus+ Team Visit Germany to learn about Radiation



Last week the Science Faculty took five Year 10 students to Hamburg, Germany for the first international meeting for our new Erasmus+ project titled 'Radiation: Blessing or Curse?'. Erasmus+ projects, funded entirely by the European Union, encourage collaboration between students in different European countries and provide fantastic opportunities for both educational and cultural experiences. Our project on radiation will run until May 2020, with the next meeting taking place at our School in February 2019.

Five other European Schools take part in this Erasmus+ project with us at Highlands (listed below)

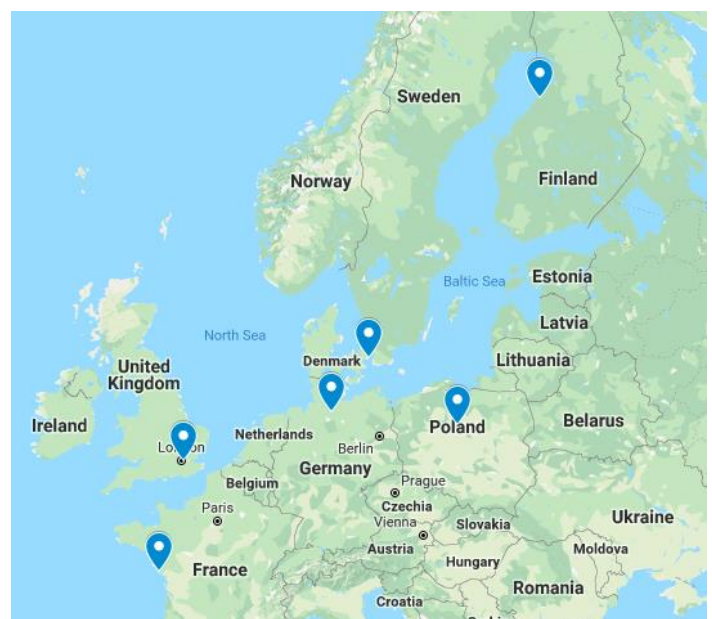
Next-Vibenhush Gymnasium
Copenhagen, Denmark

Pyhäjoki Upper Secondary School
Pyhäjoki, Finland

Lycée Sainte Marie du Port
Olonne-sur-Mer, France

Gymnasium Süderelbe
Hamburg, Germany

Zespół Szkół nr 10
Toruń, Poland



The week in Hamburg began with a tour of the school and a lecture by a professor from Hamburg University who introduced the topic of radiation and gave students a good grounding on the subject. On Tuesday, some students put their practical skills to use by building and programming their own devices to measure UVA and UVB radiation, whilst others designed pieces of clothing to protect us from different forms of radiation. On Wednesday we attended a lecture and guided tour of the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences where we learned about the use of 3D printing and the use of light for logistical purposes. It was then time to take the measuring devices we built on a tour of Hamburg! The day finished with a boat tour around the harbour, where we could see war ships, large yachts and many prominent buildings including the famous Elbphilharmonie (Concert Hall).



Left: Students building UV radiation detectors. Right: Visit to DESY particle accelerator.

We spent Thursday visiting 'DESY' (Deutsche Electron Synchrotron) looking at their facilities and learning about all the different experiments they run at their site such as identifying molecules and observing chemical reactions using X-rays. On Friday it was time to make use of all our learning during the week; students worked in mixed-nationality groups to make presentations about different aspects of the week for an audience of teachers, students and parents. We said our goodbyes with a farewell party at the school with plenty of traditional German food and drink!



Pictured above (left to right): Mr Levinson, Reece Cater, Natasha Malyon, Nicholas Malinsky, Grace Chandler, Ellie Brown, Miss Al-Obaidi

As well as educational activities, there were plenty of opportunities to learn about German culture. Guest students were hosted by families of Gymnasium Suderelbe students and lived with them for the week. They enjoyed shopping, bowling, sight-seeing and movie nights amongst many other things. The teachers also experienced German life with a Beer tasting at the Elbphilharmonie and a contemporary jazz performance!

Could you host a European Student?

We will be hosting 25 students for our Erasmus+ meeting on 2nd-9th February 2019. We would really appreciate any help you could offer in helping us host our guests. This would involve providing a spare room (or bed) and meals for the week for 1 or more students, and transporting them to/from the airport or train station.

All students visiting are from one of our partner schools, aged 15-18, and are fluent in English. You will be given further information about your guest and the schedule the week well in advance of their arrival. Your child does not need to be directly involved with our Erasmus+ project in order for you to host. Our host families are invited to special events throughout the week too! If you are interested, please email Miss Al-Obaidi for more information at alobaiy@highlands.enfield.sch.uk