FREE LEARNING AT INS ANTONI POUS AFTER THE MEETING IN KASSEL

We do not have a tradition on free learning as they have in Germany and more especifically at OSW in Kassel. Therefore we expected to learn a lot on these new aspects for us.

Our expectations were fulfilled and we could experience how free learning was implanted at the German school – we attended a presentation by the school principal, Mr Vater and we could see students at work in their free learning lessons; we also could see some of the results of these free learning classes. We could talk to teachers and students and get to know their points of view about the subject.

Obviously it is difficult to have an immediate impact of Free Learning at school. However there were aspects which we found useful for our school development. Our school is increasingly involved in Project Work, involving several subjects, collaborative learning and using basic competences. We could find a link between the certain freedom that we could observe in the classes in Germany and the different possibilities that Project Work opens in the school system. The idea of students gradually making their own choices and decisions is not that different form the open possibilities that project work offers.

Next academic year 2017-18 we will be working using projects (part time: 10 hours a week, involving several subjects) in each of the four levels of ESO secondary school. Our experience in the OSW school will be very useful the determine some of the class dynamics of this new methodology for us.