

Nightingale – a Mentoring- and Integration project

Type of project	Teacher Education
Status / period	ongoing (since 2007)
Sponsors	Integration Programme of the Canton of Zug, Prof. Otto Beisheim Foundation, Ernst Göhner Foundation
Project description	<p>In the Nightingale programme, a student from the University of Teacher Education Zug gets paired with a child (8-12 years, mainly but not only with immigrant background) from the Guthirt Primary School. Mentor and child get together for approximately 2-3 hours a week from November to May. During these informal meetings the mentor and child do enjoyable and everyday activities together.</p> <p>The main purpose of Nightingale is to contribute to cross-cultural understanding and intercultural learning. Moreover, the Nightingale programme is based on the idea of “mutual benefit” - benefit for both child and student. The mentor acts as a positive role model by establishing a personal relationship with the child. This in turn helps strengthen the child’s personal and social confidence. The student gains an insight into a child’s life (and family), an increased knowledge, understanding and empathy for people who lead lives completely different to their own. This will prove to be an asset as they continue their higher education courses and then in their subsequent professional careers.</p> <p>The Nightingale mentoring programme was established 1997 at Malmö University. In 2006, Nightingale was implemented in seven European countries through the EU-network “Mentor Migration” financed by the EU-programme Comenius 2.1. The Nightingale mentoring programme has expanded both nationally and internationally to more than 20 sites. All European partners have joined The Nightingale Mentoring Network.</p>
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