The English Centre 2017/18

This document provides an overview of our school with some information about living and working in Spain.

The English Centre was founded by Mrs Randell in 1969 as a Nursery School for English speaking children in the local area. It has now grown to be a two form entry school accepting pupils at the age of two until they have completed their University Entrance (approx. 750 pupils). The school is divided into three sections: Early Years, Primary, Secondary & Sixth Form. At present pupils follow an International Curriculum in Early Years and a dual curriculum in Primary, Secondary & Sixth Form. The school aims to provide a happy learning environment with a strong emphasis on values where our pupils can prosper and reach their true potential. It is a forward thinking school that makes full use of new technologies but also recognises the need for core values.

It is set in a beautiful part of Spain known for its food, wine and local traditions. Puerto de Santa Maria is on the coast near the ancient towns of Jerez & Cádiz. There are fast train links to Seville and Madrid and the nearest airports are Seville & Jerez.

STAFFING

THE ENGLISH CENTRE values their staff highly and makes every effort to help staff feel part of the school and remain with us for many years. Social events are programmed throughout the year and our academic year starts with a full staff meeting and drinks and tapas in the school grounds.

Staff are employed initially on a 12 month renewable contract which is reviewed by both parties at the end of the second year to become a permanent contract. Teachers are salaried over twelve months including holiday pay throughout all school holidays including July and August.  The starting salary for teachers at The English Centre is in-line with the Private Schools Agreement, and includes two months paid holiday in the summer instead of one. Tax levels in Spain are considerably lower than those in the United Kingdom with teachers paying a combined tax and national insurance contribution of around 14%. Initially, on moving to Spain, teachers pay nearly no tax until their first January, as the Spanish fiscal year runs from January to January. This means that from September to December during the first year of employment a teacher takes home a slightly higher salary as there will be negligible deductions for tax (2%). The cost of living in this part of Spain is considerably lower than the UK and other areas of Spain.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

There is an annual programme of CPD which is designed to address the needs of our staff and the development of the school. New staff are provided with a mentor for day to day support and training in our admin systems, digital diaries and recording and assessment processes.

CARING FOR OUR STAFF

International Curriculum staff are provided with a travel allowance of 300 euros per year to cover the expense of travel to and from Spain. Our HR department helps arrange all necessary documentation for NIE number, Social Security, Medical cover etc. They will also help staff find reasonably priced accomodation in the area. Temporary accomodation can also be provided initially. Staff who have school age children are eligible for free tuition once the children have successfully completed the admissions process. Staff are provided with Spanish Lessons after school to help them settle into the area. As a school we understand that settling in a new country is not always easy and we are always there to help and support our staff as best we can.