

ASPIRE4R: Empowering Students Through Peer-to-Peer Support – Final Conference Announced



Over the past months, the ASPIRE4R project, co-funded by the European Union under the Erasmus+ programme, has been on an inspiring journey to make schools more inclusive and supportive. Working closely with schools, local communities, and, most importantly, students, the initiative has developed and implemented an innovative peer-to-peer support model designed to go far beyond traditional academic assistance.

From the start, the project's mission has been to foster genuine relationships between students — creating an environment where empathy, collaboration, and personal growth thrive. Drawing on field research and best practices from diverse educational contexts, the ASPIRE4R team has built a flexible yet solid framework, supported by practical resources such as guidelines, operational tools, and monitoring methods. These have been refined with valuable input from teachers, school psychologists, and students, ensuring the model responds to real needs in the classroom.

The Peer-to-Peer Support Model in Action

At the heart of ASPIRE4R lies a structured yet flexible peer-to-peer support model, carefully designed to address the academic, social, and emotional needs of students. Built on real experiences from partner schools, it unfolds through six interconnected stages that turn good intentions into measurable impact.

- **Engaging and Selecting Volunteers** – The process begins with vibrant awareness campaigns, interactive school events, and open calls for participation. Recruitment focuses on identifying empathy, inclusiveness, and a genuine willingness to help peers, forming motivated and diverse volunteer teams.

- **Individual Plans for Volunteers** – Each volunteer works closely with teachers or coordinators to define their skills, interests, and personal goals, ensuring their contributions align with the specific needs of the school community.
- **Individual Plans for Supported Students** – Students receiving support take an active role by expressing their expectations, needs, and preferred styles of interaction, ensuring that the help provided is both relevant and respectful.
- **Thoughtful Matching** – Volunteers and students are paired with care, considering not only academic strengths but also shared interests, communication styles, and personal compatibility. Flexibility remains central, allowing adjustments whenever necessary.
- **Personalized Support Activities** – Each pair shapes their own journey, working together on study sessions, creative projects, cultural exchange, or social activities. Their progress and experiences are captured in the Volunteering Diary, creating a living record of growth and connection.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation** – Regular check-ins, combined with the use of the Impact Diary, track improvements not just in grades, but in confidence, resilience, and overall school engagement.

This is more than a framework on paper, it is already transforming everyday life in partner schools. The model is bringing students closer together, nurturing friendships, building resilience, and helping young people feel truly part of their school community.

IMPLEMENTING THE PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT MODEL IN VET SCHOOLS



Save the Date – Final Conference

The ASPIRE4R team is pleased to announce its **Final Conference**, taking place online on **19 September 2025** from 12:30 to 14:30 (CET).

The event will showcase the project's journey, the results achieved, and the positive changes observed in participating schools. Special guests will bring additional perspectives, sharing insights connected to the project's themes. The conference will conclude with an open discussion, inviting participants to share their own ideas, reflections, and visions for the future of peer-to-peer support.

A Call to Join and Engage

The ASPIRE4R Final Conference is not just a celebration — it is a chance to connect with educators, practitioners, and change-makers committed to building more inclusive schools.

As the project team puts it:

“Every story shared, every idea exchanged, and every connection made brings us one step closer to schools where everyone feels they belong.”

For more information about ASPIRE4R, visit our website, and follow the project on Facebook and Instagram to watch our latest videos and updates.



REGISTER NOW!



<http://aspire4r.eu/>



aspire4r



aspire4r



Co-funded by
the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.