

Walk for Peace

Escola Pia - Catalunya

Place where it takes place: Itinerant, every year in a place with a piarist presence.

Contact Person: Sara Camps (sara.camps@escolapia.cat)

How did the experience start? what concerns or needs do you respond to?

It was born with the idea of holding a different celebration of Saint Joseph Calasanz, understood as a voluntary activity open to all students of 4th ESO of our schools. It is realized with 4th, final year and last course students for some of our students, considering that it is an age in which they can choose between the celebration of their own center and the celebration with colleagues of Escola Pia de Catalunya. It is a vital moment that allows reflections and sharing experiences, thus creating bonds with young people from other schools.

Purposes

- Deepen and work the concept of Peace in its broadest sense (ecology, refugees, peer relations, critical thinking, structural violence, gender-based violence...).
- Understand the effort of walking in a group for 8-10km as parallel to the effort that also involves working towards peace.
- Awareness of the importance of working for Peace with the people closest to us.
- Create link, networking and sense of belonging to the Escola Pia community.

What is it?

We propose to one of our schools that welcomes the Walk for peace of that year. They will be responsible for planning the route, place of start and end and also of energizing the activities of reflection on route.

In the weeks leading up to the celebration, each group-class performs the reflection dynamics on the proposed topic that all the schools receive, prepared by the pastoral team of Escola Pia de Catalunya. . The day of the meeting begins with the creation of groups of one 20 students from different schools who make the journey accompanied by two accompanying teachers. During the route there are different stops where an activity awaits them to think, reflect or create as a group, always in relation to the proposed motto for that year. (every year you walk for a different reason, the last year the motto was "Walk, Nature calls you", working themes related to the Encyclical "Laudato Si" and the SDGs). At the end of the journey there is a festive joint event in which a manifesto prepared by the school that welcomes us that year and ends with a festive-musical act. .

What are the assessments of experience, what impact does it have on children, families...? (you can put some testimony)

In the 29 years that we have been doing the Caminada per la Pau (Walk for peace), the comments by students and accompanying teachers have been very positive. It is a proposal that gathers around 500 students each year who participate voluntarily in the meeting. The number of participants is similar year after year and shows students' interest in participating. In the accompanying video, some students and teachers express their comments and experience in the Walk of the Year 2017 in Calella.

[-Video of the 2017 edition](#)