

An intercultural school

Piarist School SALT - Girona (Spain)

Anna Planella. Principal

I INTRODUCE MYSELF



My name is Anna Planella Gironella, I am 42 years old and I have been working in early childhood education for 20 years. I consider myself a respectful, cheerful, responsible, communicative and fair person.

Currently, I am a member of the school's management team as managing director, a position I welcome with pride, respect and enthusiasm, with the intention and the aim of serving, accompanying and supporting the educational community, being a partner and loyal person to Escola Pia Salt and therefore to Escola Pia Catalunya.

I would like to take advantage of this presentation to name and recognise Carles Ruiz Gutiérrez, who has been the director of Escola Pia Salt for 10 years until last year, and with whom I am proud to share the passion, the ideology and the love for the project that we all build day by day. I also share with him that for a project to work, it is necessary to believe in and add value to the people who make it up. For all these reasons, I have confidence in the school's educational project and I accept the challenge that has been offered to me, trying to do my best to ensure that the project runs its course.

THE SCHOOL

Escola Pia Salt was born in September 2012 to support the public schools of Salt, which could not accommodate so many students from foreign families arriving en masse and the Catalan administration proposed to Escola Pia Catalunya the possibility of creating a new school. Faced with this opportunity, the directors of our institution saw the great connection with the mission and vision of our founder and accepted the challenge.

Our school started with a student body of more than 80% foreigners, but thanks to a courageous, attractive and humanistic educational project, part of the native population with an open mind has been able to send their children to the school, changing the percentage to 40%.

Salt has a very complex population, with more than a third of the population being foreign, a fact that generates a series of unique circumstances due to cultural, ethnic and religious diversity. However, what could be an opportunity for cultural growth, is in reality a difficulty of coexistence, due, above all, to the severe socio-economic complexities that impoverish the municipality.

In spite of all this, we are pleased to be part of the Municipality and we assume the commitment to contribute equity from our school. In fact, with 11 courses behind us, we have a balanced population: self-employed, foreigners and mixed couples. For us it is a great success that our global, familiar, transforming, experiential and inclusive Educational Project sets us apart from other schools and has made us a benchmark in the territory.

CHALLENGE

Our great weakness is the lack of support for pupils with special educational needs. Our school has a minimal staff and is not economically solvent to hire more staff to help students with difficulties. What's more, the administration does not give aid to charter schools like ours. For this reason we suffer for the pupils and we are imaginative in helping them, while at the same time we try to take the utmost care of the teachers, who give their heart and soul.

PASTORAL

Pastoral care is present at all times, imbuing the pupils with universal values. Due to the religious diversity of our school, we have an open outlook where religious culture prevails above all else: the approach of promoting religious culture by talking about majority religions and linking traditions and festivals with religion, has generated respect and tolerance towards those who think differently and have different beliefs. For us, this is an overwhelming success, because with knowledge, ignorance, mistrust of those who are different and, of course, conflict are

eliminated. For this reason we are satisfied that in places like Salt, where students have different beliefs, it is possible to live together respecting and moving forward to improve the society of the future based on values shared by many religions and obviously with an eye on the mission of San José de Calasanz.

OUR COMMITMENT

We want to educate children and young people to help them grow as free and autonomous people who, in a critical way, can live in community and feel committed to building a more just, sustainable and peaceful world.

Through learning, both emotional (external and internal) and cognitive, we contribute to improving our environment and, together with the whole educational community, we build a school involved in today's society.



SALT- GERONE (ESPAGNE)

PIOUS SCHOOL year of Foundation **2012**

pre-school and primary school

199 students 23 educators

Calle Pla de Salt, 10

salt@escolapia.cat

<https://salt.escolapia.cat/>

Extracurricular activities: Management by the AFA (Association of Families of Students).



