

School hosts visit by European students

Visitors from Germany, Italy and Spain in Scarborough

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Visitors from Germany, Italy and Spain were accompanied on trips by Year 9 and 10 students from Graham School

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The sounds of four different languages were ringing through the corridors of Graham School as the site welcomed visitors from Germany, Italy and Spain as part of the school's latest Erasmus+ project 'Gamification of the classroom'.

The European visitors enjoyed a packed programme organised by Spanish teacher Ana Brigido.

They also participated in a photography workshop and a multilingual webquest in which they found out more

about Scarborough's rich history and attractions.

The visitors were accompanied on visits to Robin Hood's Bay, Whitby and York by Year 9 and Year 10 students who have been working on the Erasmus+ project for the last year.

Using an innovative web-space, Scarborough students have been working 'virtually' with students from Gesamtschule Battenberg in Germany, IES Sierra de Gador in Berja, Spain and IC Vitaliano Brancati in Catania, Italy since last year and amongst other projects the children have created video guides to their local areas.

The project aims to use the psychology of gaming to support language learning in the

classroom and beyond, with support from the European Union to allow pupils and teachers to visit each others' countries in order to develop their language skills and cultural understanding.

Miss Brigido said: "This was the perfect chance for our young people to learn in the real world and to establish lifelong relationships across Europe."

She added that there are benefits for teachers too who can develop their teaching practice and learn new things from students and colleagues abroad.

Head teacher Emma Robins said she was delighted to welcome the groups to Graham School.

She said: "This is an opportunity that so few young people have. We are extremely proud to be part of this Erasmus+ project and to give our students the opportunity to make memories which will last a lifetime."

Activities are not restricted to students working on the project at Graham School; indeed, pupils from two different year groups will enjoy presentations from their European counterparts and be treated to taster lessons in different languages during the visit.

As part of this two-year project, Graham School students have already visited Spain, with a visit planned to Germany for March 2019.