



Training Path Application Report

Youth prison in Veenhuizen in the Netherlands

Organisation for education : Portalis

Portalis is located in the youth prison in Veenhuizen but also in Groningen.

The youth prison in Veenhuizen is working together with ROC Noorderpoort.

Noorderpoort is a school for vocational education (level 1 -4) in the north of Holland with about 15.000 students and 1500 employees.

But Portalis and Noorderpoort are different organisations and are independent of each other.

In Veenhuizen there are about 50 youngsters kept in prison.

During their captivity they are going to school daily (09.00 – 15.00) in small classes (max 7 persons).

Noorderpoort has detached 4 teachers at Portalis. These teachers are working together with the teachers of Portalis. Their task is to fulfil the program that has to do with vocational education.

Most of the young inmates (aged 16 – 27 years old) have not finished a school. So they have not a diplome.

Besides social skills their school program is focused on “learn to work” in the context of

Catering, Metalworking, Construction, Medical care and Cleaning business

The youngsters can earn a diploma at level 1 by doing their exam under the control of Noorderpoort.

The exam consists of :

- A practice in a real situation
- written exam in mathematics

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein



- Dutch language

- Career and Citizenship : content politics, economics, sociology, vital citizenship (sport and health), career development

Besides a good result on their exam the youngsters have to do a internship of at least 300 hours at a company inside or outside the prison (if it is possible). A special office from the Noorderpoort, they call it "Stage Service Centrum", is involved in finding internships for the inmates. It's a specialised office, a kind of 'Helpdesk' who has a large number of companys which would offer a internship!

Sometimes a youngster stays shortly in prison and then he cannot finish his study.

But then he can continue his study at Noorderpoort or an other school for vocational education.