

The elp-DESK Language event

The elp-DESK Language event was organised in conjunction with the Arthur Terry School in Birmingham, one of the schools which Crystal uses for the testing and evaluation of its educational materials and software. This excellent working relationship means that Crystal was able to ask the school to host the event which included students from both Arthur Terry School and the King Edwards VI High School, Edgbaston with whom they work closely.

The event was held in the Conference Room of the recently rebuilt multi-million pound Arthur Terry School.

Summary:

Presentations:

- Background to the elp-DESK project.
- Presentations from the partner organisations
- What is the Europass Language Passport and why is it important?
- The elp-DESK 'tools' which have been developed

Break with refreshments for all

Completing the ELP:

A practical session where students completed their own ELPs using 5 possible methods of completion:

A Europass Language Passport online

The students were asked to complete the online forms and receive the passport as a pdf attachment to an email

B Czech 'User friendly' version online - created by elp-DESK Czech partners

C iPod touch / iPhone version - students were asked to download the app free from the App store and complete on their iPod Touch or iPhone. They then emailed the automatically created pdf to themselves.

D Memory Stick – Students were asked to complete the Europass Language Passport using already **downloaded documents** saved on the elp-DESK memory stick. This involved typing in the information into a Word version of the ELP in the 'My ELP' section.

E Memory stick – 'My portfolio' facility

It was pointed out that the students would probably not have any 'evidence' of their own language abilities in the form of actual files with them on the day (Word documents, sound files, video files, pictures etc) but it was suggested that they should find some suitable files online and add them – to see how the system works.

F Romanian 'Cartoon' version – designed to be colourful and attractive to the younger target age range – easy to complete and fun!

Plenary

- Discussion on the pros and cons of the methods
- Completion of a questionnaire to provide information about usability
- Final discussion and thanks

