

Social Research Call

Preventing school failure of migrant students via a whole-school narrative intervention



Acronym: PREVENT-NI

Project leader: Pilar Prieto (ICREA-UPF)

Host organisation: Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Main purpose of the project: This project aims to assess the feasibility and effectiveness of a novel research-based whole-school and culturally-responsive narrative intervention program (PREVENT-NI) for increasing the linguistic, academic, and socioemotional integration and well-being indicators of recently arrived migrant students in the Catalan education system.

Design/methodology/approach: PREVENT-NI will be implemented in eight public primary schools in Catalonia and then assessed in terms of its feasibility and effectiveness. To validate and assess the short-term and long-term effects of the program, a set of linguistic competence, academic performance, and social integration and well-being measures will be collected before and at several points after the implementation of the intervention.

Potential results: We expect that the full application of PREVENT-NI will boost the linguistic, academic, and social integration and well-being of migrant students immediately after implementation and after leaving the newcomer program. We also expect that the full application of PREVENT-NI will help optimize newcomer reception programs in Catalonia.

Social relevance of the research: The project will have a positive impact on the Catalan education system, specifically in the newcomer reception programs, as well as on our society at large by fostering educational inclusion practices in newcomer education and thereby reducing social inequalities, closely aligning with the principles of inclusive education and equity.

Originality/value of the project: The main novel pillars of PREVENT-NI are: (a) the adoption of a whole-school (i.e., involving students, families, school leaders, and teaching staff) approach that will promote high levels of parental involvement throughout the school within a culturally responsive approach; (b) the adoption of research-based principles of implementation and participatory science.