

S 3 S SURVEY ON STUDENTS' SCHOOL SPACES

**Tutorial 1 – Creating your survey** 

CoReD research project

## **BACKGROUND TO THE SURVEY**

This survey forms part of the Erasmus+ research project Collaborative Redesign with Schools (CoReD) and involves six partner countries. The Portuguese team comprises researchers in the fields of architecture, geography, and education sciences at the University of Coimbra.

The tool proposed by the Portuguese team is called S3S 'Survey on Students' School Spaces' and aims to promote an inclusive and critical reflection on possible changes to school spaces, also supported by the feedback of the students attending them.

This tool is made up of two stages; the first one comprising the completion of an online survey by students, and the second involving the organisation of focus groups with the students to clarify the conclusions from the first stage.

The survey focuses on the use of different spaces and the emotions of the students, with the aim of identifying potential changes that could be made as well as ways to do that.

The CoReD project team acknowledges the collaboration of the school and the community.

## SURVEY IMPLEMENTATION TUTORIAL

1. According to the objectives outlined in the CoReD research project, our online tool instructions and resources need to be user-friendly and enable education professionals to understand and evaluate their current learning environment and the way it enhances/hinders the learning process.

Thus, the S3S Portuguese tool will be implemented by an appointed teacher who will mediate between the school and the students.

2. This tool focuses on the analysis of five different types of space:

- outdoor spaces: school playground / entrance
- formal learning spaces: classrooms / sports hall / labs
- study spaces: library / study hall
- eating areas: canteen / bar
- communal and circulation spaces: students' room / corridors / informal seating areas.

The teacher will be asked to identify a series of relevant school spaces within their own school context, and selects an example of each type to be addressed in the survey.

3. The teacher will also be asked to take a picture of each of these five spaces.

4. Furthermore, the teacher will be requested to select a simple image of the whole school site that can be easily comprehended by the students. We suggest an aerial photograph or a point of view captured from Google Earth or similar.

5. Numbers should be annotated on this image to enable the students to reference the spaces. The subtitling of the spaces could be handwritten, and the image subsequently digitised, or be done using image editing software.

6. Using the form provided by Google Forms as the basis for the survey, the teacher should include the pictures of the spaces in their respective sections and place the general image of the school at the specified location.



7. The teacher must also select a sample of students to answer the survey (we suggest selecting a class.)

8. The students are invited to answer the survey. Most of the survey consists of multiple choice questions with a smaller area reserved for more open answers and more personal observations.

9. The survey results are then gathered and analysed and provide the basis for the second stage of the tool, which involves focus groups with the students.

If you have any questions on any of these steps please feel free to contact Carolina Coelho, Coordinator of the Portuguese project team: carolina.coelho@uc.pt