



EU LABlearning
Aarhus Social and Healthcare College DK
January 2012



The Blue Strategy

How the Danish partner will work with the LABlearning project in practice ⇒

The Danish partner in the EU LABlearning project has decided to implement the LABlearning project at a *strategic level*. This means that the College, supported by the College Management, will involve entire new classes of young learners during their entire one year basic education, and at the same time assign a team of interested teachers to focus exclusively on the LABlearning activities.

This also means that the College will be able to take the LABlearning activities to a high didactic level: *the entire one year education will be designed as media based and laboratory learning with no classrooms and no teachers.*

This is quite revolutionary in formal education and it expresses the College's long-term strategic interest in innovative didactics.

As these strategic plans are quite expensive, it is likely that the College will invest additional financial resources in the experiments.

The investment in LABlearning is expected to have lasting effects on the College's educational settings in the future.



At the same time it has been decided that teachers from other educations at the College will follow, learn from and actively take part in the LABlearning activities in the basic educations.

We expect the LABlearning project to have a great and valuable inspiration effect on other teachers and students at the College.

The learners in the basic education, to be involved in the project activities, are young people between 16 and 20 with poor public school results. They are expected to attend social care education or similar vocational training after one year of basic schooling.

Many of the young people are at risk of exclusion, the drop-out rate is between 30 and 50%, and half of the learners are young migrants from many different parts of the world.



The College wishes to turn this entire one year preparatory schooling into a media laboratory.

We expect to involve around 50 young people, 4-5 teachers and several media designers in this ambitious project.

The LABlearning activities will be based on the LABlearning principles to be developed by the project this spring.

We have established a coordinating team, called The **Blue Team**. This team involves 2 media designers and 2 teachers. The team will coordinate all media learning activities at the College in 2012 and 2013.

The name of the team comes from the College's reflection forum, called The **Blue Room**, referring to Disney's open and creative reflection room, in which teachers and other College players systematically reflect on innovative learning approaches, for example media based learning.

The **Blue Team** will use The **Blue Room** to reflect on the LABlearning activities and will invite other people from the College to take part in the reflections.

The **Blue Room** is expected to play an important role in the LABlearning project.



The College is also involved in a EU InterReg project called *Scandinavian Game Developers*, in which our young learners will learn by developing digital learning games in collaboration with young professional game designers.

This project is running in parallel to the LABlearning project, and the College will implement the two projects in an integrated way, as *learning by developing learning games in the framework of LABlearning didactics* seems a most promising idea - for the project s and for the learners.

A team of teachers has been involved in some LABlearning experiments at the College, financed by the Danish Ministry of Education, and they will tell about their LABlearning experiences, as well as about the College's LABlearning plans, at the partner meeting in Aarhus in May.

The **Blue Team** will also coordinate the Lessons Learned contributions from the College as well as the Youth Voice initiatives.

The Youth Voice initiatives will build on evaluations from the young learners of this national LABlearning project, as this evaluation has produced many interesting reflections among the young learners.



There is a great interest among both teachers and young people to participate in the possible mobility activities in LABlearning late 2012 or early 2013.

Our teachers and learners would very much like to propose to turn the mobility activities into producing activities, meaning that they will invite the mobility teams to deliver interesting media products to the project during the mobility days.

The College is interested in taking the LABlearning and media based learning initiatives to a strategic level, which means that the College will make considerable contributions to the LABlearning project and is very interested in learning from our co-partners in the project.

Please contact us, if you need more information about our **Blue Strategy**.

