Self-reflection - IP Barcelona 2013

Helene Grunnet Petersen, University College Syddanmark

Personal development:

When we first arrived, I was very excited to meet a lot of new people, and getting to work intensive for 2 weeks with a lot of people. When we arrived it was already 21.30 in the evening, and everybody else had already arrived and said hallo to each other. So it was quite difficult, to walk in and dance with people, who you haven't even been introduced to yet.

It took me a couple of days to figure out, were I fitted in.

But I must say, I have met people here I will never forget.

But most of all, I have figured out, which kind of person I



definitely don't want to become. It has been very hard to deal with always waiting for other people, and to try to communicate with students and teachers who did not speak English. I thought that everybody would be able to talk English, and was a bit annoyed to find out that wasn't the case at all.

This programme has definitely changed me, and how I interact with other people, and that's something I will take with me.

Intercultural development:

I really liked to interact with different countries, and it was very exciting to see the different countries school systems. I knew beforehand it was going to be very different, but I was in some way surprised any way.



I think it has been good to work across borders, to see which things we find important in working with children. And this has made me think more about why we do as we do in Denmark.

Professional development:

Before I went to Barcelona, I wasn't sure if I wanted to work with children when I graduate, but after these 2 weeks, I'm sure that I will never work in a kindergarten. We had a lot of different activities every day, and somehow they all ended up with drawing, painting, etc. And if there is something I do not care about, it's things like that.

I really liked to see the city, with a new eye as when I was here on holiday. I explored that there is so many things you can do with children in the city.

