

STUDENTS EXCHANGE LICEO COPÉRNICO, VERONA - IES ANTONIO TOVAR, VALLADOLID.

DESCRIPTION OF SECONDARY EDUCATION CENTRE " IES ANTONIO TOVAR ":

IES Antonio Tovar is situated in the south part of Valladolid.

The centre gets its name from the Spanish philologist, historian and linguist *Don Antonio Tovar Llorent*, born in Valladolid in 1911, who focused a great part of his investigations in the study of Indo-European. We find especially remarkable to carry out a linguistic and cultural activity with your centre, the Liceo Copérnico, given your dedication to the study of the different European languages.

Our centre has around 470 students and offers secondary and *bachillerato* studies; the former being taught in both Spanish and English. The bilingual program has already produced a whole generation of scholars that have taken their secondary studies in two languages, and keeps growing with the time: every year, our students improve their linguistic skills by taking part in different activities or staying in British cities as part of exchange programs.

Many of our scholars are also very active in the study of French, and they develop their abilities by participating in linguistic immersion activities like projects carried out exclusively in French or staying in different French cities.

In our centre, we keep the tradition of studying Greek and Latin alive: the influence of the classic culture in our country, and especially in Valladolid and its surroundings is undeniable, so we promote several activities that encourage the study of these two ancient languages.

Regarding other fields of study, our students have won different awards in disciplines like Mathematics or Physics and Chemistry. Moreover, we are currently

developing a program of educational innovation: the creation of a "green office" within the centre, so that our students get involved in the conservation of our environment. The Natural Sciences Department coordinates all the teachers and students that take part in the project.

The student body of the centre is a very varied one and is formed by families from our neighbourhood and nearby areas of the city and villages. We also have a great number of students that live in the Real Valladolid Football School. These students come from different Spanish cities but also from foreign countries. Despite their different cultures and the fact that they communicate with one another in English when they arrive at the school, we put a lot of effort in teaching them Spanish so that by the time they leave the country they have a good level in our language.

Our centre also develops several programs for students with physical or mental disabilities and the ones with greater capacities. We support students involved in elite sports, the study of music and dancing by adapting their schedules as much as we can and encouraging them to take part in different competitions, shows, concerts, etc.

Bearing all this in mind, we think that a great variety of nationalities, races, cultures and capacities enriches the everyday life of the centre and encourages the social development and autonomy of our students.

We look forward to welcome your students and wish them the best during their stay in our city.

SINCERELY:

IES ANTONIO TOVAR, VALLADOLID