



The immigration department of the Consell de Formentera reports that primary school pupils who have recently arrived from places outside the Catalan-speaking area can begin enrolment from 18 November in the latest round of a course aimed at offering language assistance. The 2019-2020 programme begins 27 November and concludes when schools break for summer.

Formentera's office of immigration launched the initiative in response to disproportionately high rates of school failure and early school leaving among young immigrants, a hindrance to sound development in both the financial and social spheres.

In addition to giving newly arrived islanders the tools necessary to thriving in a new language, organisers also hope the course can level the playing field between students; boost learning in Catalan, the working language at schools in the Balearics; and develop skills and positive attitudes around reading and writing. The course is also seen as a valuable resource in students' social integration and a driver of positive, active attitudes about learning the local language.

Enrolment for the courses will be handled at the Department of Social Welfare (conselleria de Benestar Social, véndia des Brols, 53), Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 2.00pm. Enrolment will remain open from 18 to 22 November. More information can be obtained by calling 971 32 12 71 or sending an email to rescolar@conselldeformentera.cat.

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