



CARITAS LERNCAFÉS

SECTOR

Inclusion of migrants

COUNTRY

Austria

DURATION

2017; applied for extension until end of 2018

CONTACT

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SUMMARY

Due to their age, children of refugees, asylum seekers or families with migrant backgrounds can find themselves in particularly vulnerable situations and experience difficulties in integrating in their host country. The setting-up of so-called Lerncafés in Austria aims at providing educational support and afternoon care with recreational activities free of charge.

Children between the ages of 6 and 15 have the opportunity to participate in these Lerncafés to enhance their knowledge of the German language, improve their reading and writing skills, do homework and prepare for tests, develop communication and social skills, and nurture their motivation to continue higher education.

The Lerncafés have proven to be a great success: 52

Lerncafés are run by 700 volunteers and visited by more than 1,530 children every year. 97% of the children successfully graduated their high school year. Projects like these show that education is not only a key component of successful integration, but also for a promising future.

“A ten year old girl from Syria with no knowledge of the German language started attending the Lerncafé in autumn 2016. Last school year she was graded ‘A’ in all subjects, meaning she could attend secondary school. Her curiosity, ambition and joy of learning will make her wishes come true.”

- Employee of Caritas Austria