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TESTIMONIAL

Melania Spiteri, Deputy Head, Our Lady Immaculate School

It was an honour to take part in the Erasmus+ training course on the Maths Mastery Approach in Partizánske, Slovakia. Organised by the Secretariat for Catholic Education and delivered by James Cheater, Director of Impact Maths, the course was an inspiring and enriching professional development experience.

Throughout the training, we explored the five pillars of Maths Mastery—Representation and Structure, Mathematical Thinking, Fluency, Variation, and Coherence with Clear Curriculum Sequencing—and gained valuable insights into how these principles support deeper mathematical understanding.

A particular highlight was the practical focus on adaptive teaching strategies. We explored and experienced a wide range of approaches, including hedging, making connections, breaking questions down, stem sentences, pattern spotting, bar models, reasoning, effective questioning, reducing cognitive load, using manipulatives, goal-free problems, role reversal, and encouraging pupils to explore efficient methods. These practical strategies have given me a better understanding of how these adaptive teaching strategies can support a deeper understanding.

The experience was made even more memorable through an interesting cultural programme and the opportunity to network with colleagues from different schools, sharing ideas, experiences, and good practice.

A sincere thank you to the **Secretariat for Catholic Education** for organising this excellent Erasmus+ opportunity, to **James Cheater** for delivering such engaging and thought-provoking training, and to **Cirkevná základná škola s materskou školou Jána Krstiteľa, Partizánske**, for their warm hospitality and for hosting us throughout the training. I look forward to sharing these ideas with educators from Our Lady Immaculate school to support meaningful mathematical learning in the classroom.

