

SKUPINOVÁ MOBILITA: **Osnovna škola Sveti Petar Orehovec (Zagreb), Chorvatsko**  
 TERMÍN: **12. 10. 2025 – 19. 10. 2025**  
 PROJEKT: **Active EU Citizen: Zero waste**

## Osnovna škola Sveti Petar Orehovec

The partner school we visited is situated in a village called **Sveti Petar Orehovec**, about **60 km from Zagreb** – the capital city of Croatia.



## Education system in Croatia

In Croatia, children have four levels of school – preschool preparation for primary school, where children go from 3-6/7 years old. Then there is **osnovna škola** (primary school), where children from 6/7 years old go to school for 8 years, **it is compulsory** for all children living in Croatia. The eight years are often divided into two cycles:

- Lower primary school (**grades 1-4**): Classes are often led by one class teacher.
- Upper primary school (**grades 5-8**): Teaching is provided by teachers of specific subjects.

These two schools are compulsory, but there are also schools where you can decide whether you want to go or not and those are secondary schools - **srednja škola**, where you go for 3-5 years. It is not compulsory. And then there is higher education - **visoko obrazovanje**, universities and polytechnics.

Education is mostly funded by the state and is free in public elementary and secondary schools, but if it is private education, it is no longer free.



All required **textbooks are provided free of charge by the state**. Depending on the local government, some supplies (e.g., workbooks) are also often provided for free or at a subsidized cost. Since 2003, **primary school students get a free meal at school**. All **primary school students are entitled to a free**

**school transport if they live at a distance greater than 2 km.**

Students get marks from 1 to 5, but the **5 is the best**. In grades 7 and 8 there are **compulsory subjects: core**: Croatian language, Mathematics, Foreign language, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, History, Geography, Physical education and **other**: Art, Music, Technical education (continues to build practical skills). **Elective** subjects are: Religious education, Second foreign language (German, Italian, French), or Informatics.

**Lessons are 45-minute-long** and there is **5-minute break after each lesson**, one break is 10-minute long.

Full-time teachers in Croatia have a weekly teaching load that varies by subject, with a **maximum of 24 hours** for most subjects, **23**



**hours** for foreign and classical languages, and **22 hours** for subjects like Croatian language, and mathematics.

## School description

### 1<sup>st</sup> floor

When I first saw the school, it looked as being reconstructed and newly built. I found out that it has two floors plus and underground. As I walked in and walked through the big doors, I appeared in the hallway which was decorated with various bulletin boards, for example, there was bulletin boards with flags where our flag was, and especially a long shelf with a lot of trophies and medals. Under the shelf there was probably the cleaning lady's room. Then I come past the principal's office in which there was a table, a lamp, and a computer. Under the windows there were four reddish-brown chairs where you could relax.



Next to the chairs there was a long corridor that has window on the left side there were lockers, which were very small, and hangers for jackets and shoe rack for shoes. So, **they change shoes as**



**we do.** Next the lockers and the hanger there was a door to the classroom and next to the door there were more lockers and shelves. When we got to the end of the corridor, there was a bike hanging from the ceiling that has one big wheel in front and another small one in the back, but the bike was strange, because there were no pedals and the seat was so strange that you couldn't ride it, so it's probably just for

decoration. Under the strange wheel there were four doors and the toilets for boys and the other for girls, and the other two classrooms. The corridor continued down to the newly build gym which was underground. So, there was a huge auditorium for various competitions and games, they said that most of the events take place there and in addition to games they also have a score counter. Most importantly they had a lot of windows and also climbing frames and exercise equipment.

When we went back to the corridor, there was another corridor that is mainly focused on the **dining room.**

### 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

When we moved up the stairs, each step was decorated with colour and text, there were various sayings on the walls and a large colourful picture painted on the wall, on the floor there were large green flowers behind the flowers large window with a railing so that no one could fall. When you go up the stairs you saw a rest area where there were tiny blue bags with furry pillows that you could sit on, with a low white table and above the rest area there was a beautiful bulletin board with pictures, but at the very top I saw a tied doll on the ceiling.





When we moved down, we saw the door to the music classroom, in that classroom there was a piano, a large blackboard, benches, a television and

lots of bulletin boards with music education aids because music education was taught in the classroom.

On the second floor there were also two corridors, as downstairs, the first corridor was next to the rest area which leads to the computer class, where there were computers on the tables and table for the teacher, also with a computer, and a blackboard for computer science. When we return to the corridor, on the right side there were windows again and, on the left, there were cabinets with hangers and a couple of pictures, a clock hanged on the ceiling above. The second corridor led to the **library** which had four round and eight-seat tables and table for the teacher and a board for markers, and of course lots of books on the shelves and windows. When we return to the hallway, on the right side there were two sliding doors and on the left side there were windows from which you could see a beautiful view of the forest and meadow.

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