

The Formentera Island Council and the Formentera Hospital have signed a deal to coordinate Catalan language courses for employees of the hospital and provide preparatory instruction in anticipation of two official tests of the Catalan language currently scheduled for January and May 2015.

The courses - under the charge of the Council's linguistic assessment service - are at the A2 and B1/B2 levels. The A2 track focuses on cultivating students' oral comprehension skills as well as their ability to write and speak in Catalan. Theoretically, the A2 level corresponds to basic communication abilities, those that allow students to negotiate the most common daily situations. At the B1/B2 level, students are meant to achieve mastery of the language in both its written and oral forms, permitting either off-hand discussion of topics like work, school, family and leisure, or – contrarily – more thorough and technical analysis of topics such as the speaker's professional vocation.

As with previous accords between the Council and the Formentera Hospital, all courses will take place in the afternoon or evening in a space on the hospital premises, making attendance easier for staff. This is the third such agreement to be signed between the two entities.