

The Formentera Island Council and the Formentera Hospital signed today a new collaborative agreement to further extend the Catalan courses being offered for hospital personnel.

The Council, by way of its Linguistic Assessment Service (Servei d'Assessorament Lingüistic in Catalan, or SAL), signed a collaborative pact with the Formentera Hospital on 30 November 2012 to administer the provision of thirty class hours of beginner's level Catalan language for hospital staff.

The first course (which had a registration of twenty students) having drawn to a close, an addendum to the first accord was signed this morning to prolong the number of teaching hours to a total of sixty-six. The level of the first course is basic (A2), which imparts students with skills in comprehension and oral expression. The second course will include levels B1, B2 and C1, and it is hoped that in this way the needs of each student will be met with a personalized teaching tailored to the language level that the student wishes to acquire.

To facilitate attendance, class days and times were established in the same way as before, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 5:30 pm, and they will continue to be held in a

specially-equipped classroom on the hospital premises.

A total of 35 individuals have signed up for this new course, thus complementing the course offering already established by the School for Adults (Escola d'Adults) and other courses.

It is hoped that this initial experience – shaping up to be quite positive – will serve as a starting-off point for more courses next year. The hope is also that future classes will include a greater variety of start times and skill levels. This collaborative agreement between the two institutions implies no costs for the Council or for the Formentera Hospital.