

Basic information



Name of the school: Gymnazium Jozefa Lettricha

Location: Jozef Lettrich Street, Martin

Format: Secondary grammar school - 8 years of study ending in a comprehensive final exam

Number of classes: 16

Present number of students: 460

Gymnazium Jozefa Lettricha was founded in 1993 in the city of Martin, located in the Turiec Valley of central Slovakia. Though a young institution, Gymnazium Lettricha has already had a significant impact on the surrounding community. Today, it is among the most reputable schools in the region. One need only look to our annual application rate for first year students, which consistently exceeds school capacity. Here, a select group of students work closely with teachers to develop to their full potential.

Since 1 September 2003, Gymnazium Lettricha has been a specialized grammar school, complete with the proper combination of faculty and resources. Responding to opportunities our students are given after their graduation we focused our curriculum on various fields of study. Today, the school is outfitted with special laboratories and classrooms for Multimedia studies, Social studies, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Foreign languages, Slovak language.

This type of school prepares students for further study at university, though the skills a student acquires at Gymnazium Lettricha are also immanently valuable throughout life. After passing their rigorous final examinations, students are able to display a wide array of competencies. Each graduate must be able to communicate in two foreign languages, use technology, and practice lateral and logical thinking. Since our first graduates left, we have had one of the highest postsecondary acceptance rates-- 95-97% on average.

Students start at the age of 11 and finish at 19. Each student interested in studying at our school has to pass an entrance exam in Slovak language and Mathematics. Then during the eight years leading up to final exams (or, "Maturita," as they are known in Slovak), students are responsible for developing a personal portfolio. The portfolio is another key component of Gymnazium Lettricha's educational process. It functions as an all-inclusive record of a student's varied academic and extracurricular achievements, such as competitions, projects, excursions, certifications, and diplomas.

The faculty is made up of 32 teachers covering a diverse spectrum of disciplines. Administration consists of the headmaster (Mgr. Igor Libo) and his 2 deputies (RNDr. Marta Vladárová and PaedDr. Eva Kuková). Administrators manage the school in collaboration with the School Council, Parents' Council and Students' Parliament.

Every year, our students and faculty participate in several extracurricular events. The biggest are different types of project-based learning events such as an original project presentation “Projektová konferencia”, “Kvasinky”. Throughout the school year students are able to attend dances, sporting events, competitions, language courses, handcraft courses, local and international excursions, and many others.

Our students are also encouraged to develop creativity and a strong sense of self. The school has been publishing a collection of stories called *Remembrance Wandering* (“Putovanie za spomienkami”), written by the students searching for the roots of their ancestors. Additionally, we publish a collection of student poetry entitled *In Whispers* (“Pošepky”). In fact, one of our school’s greatest achievements has been the annual school magazine, *Gymlet*. It has been rewarded three times as the best Slovak secondary school magazine. Of course we also publish our annual almanac (year book) which highlights and commemorates the events of the school year.

Gymnazium Lettricha is also a diverse place. Though most of our students are from Martin and its surroundings, since 2003 the school has been organizing exchange stays in cooperation with Rotary International. Every year we have a chance to welcome foreign students from different parts of the world such as USA, Mexico, Brazil, Taiwan, Japan, Ecuador and also our students have the opportunity to participate in an exchange program in these countries. The second exchange program our school is a part of is the cooperation with Zernike College in the Netherland. This is a short-term exchange where students essentially focus on getting to know the new country and its culture.

Values of our school

Freedom and responsibility
Esteem and respect
Cooperation
Open-mindedness
Acknowledgement

We believe that

- respect, especially self-respect, is the defining feature of our school
- we lead our students to self-actualization and healthy and reasonable self-confidence
- we develop the unique talents and gifts of each student
- we participate in the process of “education” in the broadest possible sense-enabling students to be successful not only academically but personally
- our students receive knowledge, experience, and skills that enable them to lead a worthwhile as citizens of a democratic society

Strategic goals

Our school – a centre of upbringing and education, a place of mutual dialogue between students, parents, and teachers