REDUCTION OF SUICIDES AND TRESPASSES ON RAILWAY PROPERTY

RAILWAY SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAMME

WHERE: Madrid Railway Museum (Museo del Ferrocarril de Madrid),
Catalonia Railway Museum (Museo del Ferrocarril de Catalunya).
Alicante: Three Primary Schools.

WHY: To promote safe behaviour and habits in the railway environment, in order to prevent pupils from taking short cuts, playing on the tracks and behaving unsafely at stations, now and in the future.

WHAT: Between January and March 2014, railway safety workshops were delivered to teachers and pupils (8-10 years) from schools located close to a railway line. The pilot test measured the impact on pupils’ awareness of the dangers of railway trespassing and knowledge of how to stay safe in the railway environment as well as teachers’ perceptions regarding the importance of delivering railway safety at school, their confidence to do so and current school practices.

RESULTS: Following participation in the pilot measure, teachers reported an increased awareness of the need to cover railway safety at school and greater confidence, skills and commitment to do so in the future.

Students learnt about the risk factors related to trains’ speed, weight and stopping distance and were able to apply this knowledge to explain the repercussions for someone acting dangerously on or near the railway tracks and in the station.