

The Formentera Language Advisory Service (*Servei d'Assessorament Lingüístic/SAL*) reports that language are back on the calendar for health workers at the Hospital de Formentera and local Guardia Civil agents. The first of two beginners' (A2) courses is scheduled for evenings in the conference hall of the hospital, with eight students currently enrolled; classes for the second course will be held at the Guardia Civil barracks and attended by two students.

Since first partnering in November 2012 with the local hospital to propose language instruction for personnel, the Consell de Formentera has underwritten an exhaustive range of Catalan courses to help students prepare for successive exams. Put on hold in March amid the declaration of emergency orders, the current courses are geared towards the next round of Govern de les Illes Balears-announced tests in January.

Also originally scheduled for a March start, the course for the pair of Guardia Civil officers marks a first and is the product of a partnership between the Eivissa-Formentera Office of the National Administration (*Administració General de l'Estat*).

'Promote knowledge and use of the local language'
Language policy chief Raquel Guasch said she was thrilled to see "the slow but steady return to normal of these classes where are designed to promote knowledge and use of Formentera's local language among social stakeholders connected to the community". The consellera affirmed, "We hope this initial crop of classes for Guardia Civil officers will be the first of many, and are envisioning progressively higher levels, like B1 or B2".

Public health protocol will be respected in full, with classrooms constantly ventilated, mandatory masks for students and teachers, social distancing and, when possible, classes outdoors.

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Department of Communications
Consell de Formentera