





## Linguistic Model of application in the field of Education in the *BALEARIC ISLANDS*<sup>1</sup>

-  Name of the language: Catalan
-  Status of the language: Official
-  Classification of the language according to the UNESCO: not applicable
-  Protected under the Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

### General description of the linguistic model of application in the territory

The language model of the Balearic education system is set by the article 22 of the Law 3/1986, of 29 April, on Language Standardisation in the Balearic Islands, which states that Public Administration has to provide all necessary measures to avoid that students are not segregated on the grounds of language.



The Decree 92/1997, of 4 July, on Teaching in Catalan in non-university schools implies that at least 50 % of class hours are taught in Catalan, the official and native language of the Balearic Islands. This rule applies in the whole formal education with the exception of universities.

Each school has its own set of regulations with regard to the other 50 % of class hours, which can be taught in Catalan, Spanish or in a foreign language. However, this linguistic distribution must be justified according to the educational context of the area -first language(s) of the students, language(s) of socialisation- in order to compensate the shortcomings of pupils concerning knowledge of both official languages (Catalan and Spanish).

Regarding to teaching non-linguistic subjects in a foreign language, two decrees are applied: the one mentioned previously and Decree 45/2016, of 22 July, for the development of foreign languages communicative competence in schools financed by public resources. The last one establishes the optionality of using a foreign language to teach a non-linguistic subject.

Schools may include a second non-linguistic subject to be taught in a non-official language; in such cases it must be requested to the Government and schools must prove that those students are fully competent in both official languages in order to compliance with the article 20 of the Law 3/1986: *“The Government has to adopt the necessary measures to guarantee full command of Catalan and Spanish languages when finishing compulsory schooling, whichever are their languages before starting school”*.

As most Balearic children tend to socialise in Spanish, many educational institutions choose to increase the teaching hours in Catalan as a compensatory measure.

-  Total number of **primary students** (basic education) enrolled in public and private institutions (schooling year 2018/2019): **69.157**
-  Total number of **secondary students** (middle school) enrolled in public and private institutions (schooling year 2018/2019): **45.360**

<sup>1</sup> Source: Directorate-General Language Policy. Government of the Balearic Islands

🗨️ Distribution of schooling languages in the Balearic Island Education System:

