



Representing the Formentera Council, social welfare councillor Vanessa Parellada and culture, education and patrimony councillor Susana Labrador, together with Marilina Bonet, social educator at the local office of education, delivered diplomas to graduates of the social and educational programmes ALTER and PISE for students enrolled at IES Marc Ferrer and aged 14 to 16.

Of the six students present at the start of the academic year, five successfully completed their coursework. Three were enrolled in the social and educational action programme, PISE, a joint project of the Balearic Regional Ministry of Education and the Formentera Council. The other three students pursued studies through ALTER, a programme of the Regional Ministry of Family and Social Services that also benefits from the collaboration of the Formentera administration.

### Alternative training courses

The objective is to cater to the educational needs of secondary students with difficulties adapting to the traditional school environment. According to Susana Labrador, “successfully combatting dropout and motivational problems among students enrolled in much-needed training” is also a question of “seeking out more appealing learning techniques”. For her part, Parellada stressed before the youth present “the importance of studying now in order to assure better employment conditions in the future”.

Both ALTER and PISE push growth in three different areas. On the one hand, students are required to attend an educational centre in person in order to complete a basic set of subjects. On the other, they learn a vocation of their choosing, through placement at a local business. Lastly, the students work with an educator on a host of different subjects, including their own professional development and even healthy living habits.

The businesses that participated in the two alternative education programmes are Sonia hairstylists, the SEAT garage, Nàutica Pins, the Europa garage and the early-education nursery, Escoleta Sa Miranda.

