



School Equity Best Practice

Title: Integrating newcomers who do not understand the language of instruction.

Equity dimension: *tick the dimension related to the practice*

- Fairness Inclusion Access Opportunities
 Personalised learning Personal and social development

Subject: integrating newcomers in secondary education

Target groups: *choose the educational level focus of the practice*

- Early Years Primary education Lower secondary education
 Upper secondary education Vocational Training Other

Source: *give information about the school and its context. Include contact details*

Meertalig Atheneum Woluwe (MAW), Grote Prijzenlaan 59, 1150 Sint-Pieters-Woluwe, info@atheneumwoluwe.be ; <http://www.atheneumwoluwe.be>

MAW offers general education with a strong focus on multilingualism. MAW believes that multilingualism is an asset, because of the Brussels' context and as a school in the capital of Europe. Multilingualism prepares the students for studies at the university or college and helps with the cultural, social and intellectual development of the students. As MAW is a CLIL-school, all pupils receive courses in different languages.

Description: *write a 5 line summary including the goals and objectives of the practice*

The “OKAN” project is focusing on newcomers who do not understand the instructional language. The objectives of this educational project are:

- Teach the instructional language to newcomers
- Integrating newcomers into classroom practice and in society
- Preparing newcomers for further studies in secondary education or other training courses.

Methodology: *explain the steps followed to implement the practice, responsibilities (who makes what), the duration, time and place. Maximum 1 page.*

“OKAN education” is organized at school level and starts with the creation of a separate class. The new pupils can enter at any time during the school year. This educational project must be requested from the government and the school receives extra financial support when approved.

Each pupil is screened by arrival. An individual learning path will be developed based on this screening. These newcomers receive general education but the emphasis is on the development of the language of instruction. The pupils thus receive mathematics, technology, etc. but always adapted to their knowledge of the language of instruction and with the aim of language development. In practice, this means that the pupils are classified and followed up for each level of understanding. In this way language lessons are given up to 26 hours a week.

The teachers have received additional training in language development and intercultural skills.

When the pupil has acquired enough linguistic and subject competences to participate in the regular classes, he will be integrated in the regular system. This can happen at any time during the school year but most often after one year.

Resources: *explain the resources used in the practice: human, financial, technical, materials...*

- This school project is organised at school level and starts with the creation of a separated class.
- The teachers have received additional training in language development and intercultural skills.

- Adapted school material is created by the teachers.

Outcomes: *explain the results, the evaluation and the impact of the practice*

After one year, the majority of these newcomers can transfer to mainstream education. Most pupils transfer to vocational education with the aim of learning a practical profession. Providing continued support in their further school careers, most pupils obtain their vocational education certificate.

Supporting documents: *give the link to supporting documents, such as forms, multimedia files...*

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtlK5oq8UVU> (*tips for teaching newcomers in secondary*)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZgmLt3SGMMc> (*tips for teaching newcomers in Elementary*)
- <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oela/newcomers-toolkit/ncomertoolkit.pdf> (*newcomer toolkit*)

Interview: *the practice should include a recorded video interview to one of the users about the benefits of the good practice. The video should be in English or subtitled. Maximum 3 minutes. Write the video URL here*