

Summary

A possible programme for the development of social competence of pupils in primary education

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The development of pupils' social competence in primary education is a primary responsibility of the school and not a minor side-effect of the educational process. This paper describes the role and importance of developing pupils' social competence in primary education as a model of enriched learning environment that stimulates the development of brain connections. It is emphasized that social competence is correlated with a child's cognitive development, rather than being an isolated area of (social) development. Since there is no unique model for developing social competence of pupils in primary education in our country, the paper proposes one possible programme: „To Be a Friend”. This model has been elaborated through the components of quality teaching: team learning, experiential learning, public speaking, pro-social behaviour, self-control and quality communication. The paper states a list of topics the pupils use and present in front of the class once a month, commenting on the activities they have carried out. The list provides feedback for teachers, parents and pupils on the activities whose aim is to develop pupils' social competence. The model called „To Be a Friend” is an account of a possible programme for the development of social competence, while its frame of reference and specificities may help in preparing new (official) programmes.

Keywords: social competence, curriculum, interaction, „To Be a Friend” model, primary education.