

Developing teacher competencies in inclusive settings

Dublin 12 11 09



Different experiences in practice

- Personal experience in life
- Training teachers on ‘special’ needs education
- Training ‘A school for all’
- Supporting inclusive apprenticeships
- Participation in multi-discipline dialogue in inclusive settings
- Research on competencies of teachers in inclusive contexts

Conclusions

- No need for new skills
- Need to develop existing skills:
 - Participation planning
 - Differentiation in the curriculum
 - Co-teaching
 - Teamwork/partnership
 - Communication
- ‘Special’ knowledge is not of primary importance

A positive basic attitude

- The will to see a human being as a human being
- Believe in the possibilities of every child
- Believe in the valuable contribution of every child = participation

An ecological approach

- Use all opportunities from the environment to develop and enrich the student (additional to defined general goals)
- Bring in support by own social networks

An ecological approach

- Goals are in relation to :
 - Age group
 - Surrounding culture and habits
 - Social environment
- Emphasis on PARTICIPATION
- Do not copy the way of working of the special education system

Need for 'good' teachers

- All students need a 'good' teacher
- As a teacher, know your own limitations
- Accept help
- Contribute to an open culture in your team, with students, in your own context...
- Assume responsibility for ALL children
- Go for co-teaching

Consequences for policy and education

- Inclusion is not an option, it's a reality/task for ALL teachers
- Parents can never say : 'we are not ready for this child...'
- Teachers do not have the right to choose their students
- Teachers are responsible for ALL students

Consequences for policy and education

- The importance of role models, teachers with a disability
- Teachers have a right to quality education and quality support
- Inclusion is not a specialty. It's a fundamental starting point in teacher training



GO for INCLUSION

Reduce basic fear
GO for INCLUSION

Create opportunities to 'meet'
GO for INCLUSION

Live together, play together
A BASIC RIGHT

