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Implementation Seminar with Peer Learning about Language Learning - Literacy and the Language of Schooling

Hosted by the Ministry of Education of Hesse/ Germany and the Teacher Academy Hesse

Practical Information and background

When?	17-18 December 2019
Where?	IntercityHotel Frankfurt Central Station, Mannheimer Str. 21, 60329 Frankfurt
Who?	Member State delegates in the field of language education Experts proposed by the host country and the European Commission
Languages?	English and German, interpretation available during plenary discussions

In the context of the European Education Area, the European Commission proposed a Recommendation¹ on a comprehensive approach to the teaching and learning of languages in May 2018. The Council of the European Union has adopted the Recommendation in May 2019.

Germany is and has always been a country of immigration. Due to the growing number of people with different nationalities coming to and living in Germany, the Ministry of Education of the Federal State of Hesse has adapted to this multicultural situation. It has taken its social and political responsibility for providing the best possible conditions for the schooling and education of children and adolescents arriving or already living in Hesse. This contributes to social integration. Language is the key to integration because it will open doors to educational success. The Federal State of Hesse has developed an overall scheme for language support at schools starting from pre-school preparatory courses up to intensive tutoring at schools of general education and vocational schools. The Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK), currently chaired by Hesse, has just launched a 10 point Recommendation on the language of schooling. Hesse is putting great emphasis on strengthening it by implementing schemes and programmes supporting students to acquire the language of schooling, which is key to their educational success.

Germany, more precisely the Land of Hesse, is proud to host this implementation seminar focussing on certain aspects of its strategy, in dialogue with a group of peers from

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/council-recommendation-improving-teaching-and-learning-languages_en



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the EU with similar interests and ambitions concerning the teaching and learning of languages in school.

Through country presentations, structured discussions, study visits to best practice schools in (and around) Frankfurt and dialogues with educators, teachers and pupils, the seminar is expected to support the implementation of the Council Recommendation in those Member States where there is a strong political commitment to achieve change in this field.

Programme

Day 1 - Tuesday, 17 December 2019	
9.00-9:30	Registration and get together
9:30- 10.30	<p><u>WELCOME AND SETTING THE SCENE</u></p> <p>Mr Wolf Schwarz, Head of Department, Ministry of Education, Hesse Mr Andreas Lenz, President of the Teacher Academy Hesse Ms Kristina Cunningham, Senior Expert for multilingualism policy, European Commission: <i>Welcome words</i> Ms Ana-Maria Stan, Policy Officer, European Commission: <i>Key messages on literacy development from PISA 2018</i></p>
10.30-12.00	<p><u>KEYNOTE SPEECHES</u></p> <p>Prof Dr Helmuth Feilke, University of Gießen, Hesse (Germany): <i>The Language of Schooling: Learning with language – learning through language</i> (followed by Q&A)</p> <p>Prof Dr Nathalie Auger, University of Montpellier (France): <i>Putting the Linguistic Repertoires of the Classroom into Play</i> (Followed by Q&A)</p> <p><u>Q&A SESSION WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AND PARTICIPANTS</u></p> <p>Ms Hanna Siarova, Senior researcher, PPMI, featuring a brief preview of a study commissioned by the European Commission about multilingual education in Europe.</p>
12:00-13:30	Lunch break
13.30-15:00	<p><u>Germany</u> – Mr Christopher Textor, Vice Head of the Department of General Education in the Ministry of Education, Hesse: <i>Current state report on the overall language support scheme in Hesse, focusing on the language of schooling</i></p>



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	<p><u>EUROPEAN CAFÉ – Boosting the literacy skills of all learners</u></p> <p>Two rounds of group discussions around country presentations (participants choose two out of four countries), facilitated by Andrea Broughton and François Staring (Ecorys), centred around three key questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Literacy as a transversal skill</u>: how can teachers best support those learners who struggle the most with language learning to develop literacy as a transversal skill? 2. <u>Language awareness for subject teachers</u>: how can subject teachers support literacy development? 3. <u>Inclusive school environments</u>: how does language awareness contribute to creating an inclusive school environment? <p><u>Croatia</u> – Ms Arjana Blažić and Ms Ivana Škarica Mital: <i>Language and Literacy in Light of the Curricular Reform in Croatia</i></p> <p><u>Finland</u> – Ms Katri Kuukka: <i>Government key projects to promote language awareness in teacher education</i></p> <p><u>Malta</u> – Dr Nadia Vassallo, MCAST: <i>Language: breaking barriers and increasing access</i></p> <p><u>Sweden</u> – Ms Helga Stensson, National Agency for Education: <i>The reading boost</i></p> <p><u>Estonia</u> – Ms Pille Põiklik and Ms Annike Soodla, Ministry of Education and Research, <i>Key aspects to success in language and literacy</i></p>
15:00-15:30	Coffee break
15:30-16:10	Ms Deirdre Kirwan and Mr David Little: <i>One school, fifty languages: from linguistic diversity to educational capital</i>
16:10-17:15	<p><u>PANEL DISCUSSION – How to promote the concepts of language awareness in education and training?</u></p> <p>Moderated by Ms Kristina Cunningham, Senior Expert for multilingualism policy, European Commission</p> <p>Ms Martina Goßmann, Ministry of Education (Hesse): <i>How to implement the transfer of knowledge and text-based literacy skills to students, especially in the transition from primary to secondary education?</i></p> <p>Ms Karmen Pizorn, University of Ljubjana, Faculty of Education (Slovenia): <i>How to implement plurilingual competence in a pre-service teacher training programme: A case study from Primary Teacher Education study programme</i></p> <p>Mr Gunther Abuja, Austrian language competence centre: <i>Language sensitive teaching – a key to support vulnerable groups in education</i></p>
17:15-17:45	<p><u>WRAP-UP OF DAY 1</u></p> <p>Conclusions & Rapporteurs for school visits</p>
19:00	Dinner in Restaurant MainNizza



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Day 2 Wednesday, 18 December 2019	
8:00-12:00	<p><u>SCHOOL VISITS – Literacy and Language of Schooling in Hesse</u></p> <p>Primary schools, secondary schools and vocational schools focussing on language awareness in all subjects (intensive classes and beyond), including a consecutive discussion with teachers, educators and pupils</p>
12:00-13:00	<p><u>CONCLUSIONS FROM SCHOOL VISITS</u></p> <p>Group discussion moderated by rapporteurs from school visits (with support from the European Commission and Ecorys)</p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:30	<p><u>TEN-POINT-PLAN ON THE LANGUAGE OF SCHOOLING</u></p> <p>Prof Dr Alexander Lorz, Minister of Education in Hesse and President of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK): <i>Ten-point-plan on the language of schooling</i></p> <p><u>Q&A SESSION WITH COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES</u> (Moderated by Prof Dr Natalie Auger) Dr Nadia Maria Vassallo (Malta) Ms Helga Stensson (Sweden)</p>
15:30-15:45	Coffee break
15:45-16:45	<p><u>CLOSING PANEL – Key lessons from the two days</u> (Moderated by François Staring, Ecorys)</p> <p>Prof Dr Daniela Elsner, Goethe-University of Frankfurt am Main (Germany) Mr Michael Teutsch, Head of Unit, Schools and Multilingualism Unit (European Commission) Ms Heike Battfeld, Teacher Academy Hesse (Germany) Prof Dr Nathalie Auger, University of Montpellier (France)</p>
16:45-17:00	<p><u>SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS</u></p> <p>Mr Andreas Lenz, President of the Teacher Academy Hesse Ms Kristina Cunningham / Mr Michael Teutsch, European Commission</p>