

Outside Class

Project description

Goals

The general aim of our project is to support those children who do not finish their primary education and for whom a traditional classroom setting is not serving all of their needs. The reasons for this are as follows:

- the fact that these students are past the traditional age limit for primary education results in our students lagging further and further behind their peers
- ADHD, behaviour problems, speech and reading disabilities, and other disorders
- problems due to social disadvantages
- getting significantly behind their studies
- leaving the traditional classroom for homeschooling which typically leads to the student dropping out.

Exact aims:

- Identifying children before they leave school and integrating them into our program
- Making possible that they are able to become a lifelong learner
- Help the process of their socialization, and the development of their personality
- Create a healthy self-confidence and self-evaluation
- Prevent the dropping out from school and repeating school years
- Providing lifelong guidance and giving students the possibility of continuing their studies after primary school by motivating the students to want to learn
- Encouraging the enjoyment of learning and hard work through success and self-esteem
- Equipping students with the basic skills so that they can become life-long learners able to continue their education long after they have completed their primary school education.
- Acquiring the skills and knowledge necessary for everyday life.
- Encouraging regular daily routines among children, like going to school every day, having a fixed timetable, at the same time preparing children for being employed in the future and becoming a contributing member of society.
- Including students in the process of evaluation so that they can take ownership of their education.

Target group

Our project targets two separate groups. First, we serve those young children between 12 and 18 whose education for the above mentioned reasons cannot be realized in a traditional classroom setting. In addition, we serve those adults who have already dropped out from the primary school education for similar reasons.

Key aspects of the project

Why was the introduction of this project necessary?

During our work we often had to face the fact that there were more and more students considered as problematic ones, who have passed the age limit of obligatory education, and have behaviour problems, mainly students with serious social deficiencies, who continue their studies as private students. On the basis of our experience these students (because of having

become a private student) almost always stop their studies and do not even finish primary school. Consequently having no finished school education, they have difficulties in entering the world of labour and being employed. This is why we decided to act immediately.

At the beginning of the academic year of 2009 we began to look for the possibilities of how to give a helping hand to these young people to get their primary school certificate and continue their studies at secondary education. Although we have consulted the Education and Social Representatives of our city, we have not found an ideal solution.

In the spring of 2010 we visited an institution run by the Norbertine Sisters of Hungary, where they teach students with similar techniques and in similar circumstances to our “outside class”. Taking this as an example and studying the system of “outside class” in Spain, we decided to start our project

The functioning of the “Outside Class

The way:

Studying in the morning like in a proper school but in small groups, forming classes of maximum 10 students, individual and differentiated lessons. Individual talks, character/personal development, socializing. Individual timetable and educational plan. Lifelong guidance. Extra-curricular activities. Providing child care for mothers studying at school in the Baby-Mother Club of “Our House”.

Enrolling:

It is possible to enrol to the “outside class” if it is suggested by the given educational institution. A written application has to be sent to our Foundation, to representative of the authorized educational advisory, to the child welfare service and to the educational department of the local government. This must contain the detailed educational work of the teachers and the form teacher referring to the job previously done in order to keep the concerned student in the normal school system. They also have to explain why they find it necessary to take the student out from the “normal” class. They also have to inform the parents about possible solutions, in reference with which the parents have to express their agreement and it has to be attached to the application form. This application will be reconsidered by the educational advisory, the child welfare service and the educational department and they decide if it is and why it is necessary to take the child out from the “normal” school system. This is the procedure how a child can be educated in the “outside class.

Checking and evaluating

The daily activities, the evaluation, the absences and the names of the students who are being late are documented in the class diary.

Performance is evaluated in every lesson, which helps to make a daily and a weekly evaluation of the student. The evaluation has three levels: on the basis of their work students can get a pass, a fail or a pass A.

The school nominates a representative who keeps contact with the “outside class”, who informs it about the exam dates, the way of the exam and they share administration work with the teacher of the “outside class”.

Students keep their school equipment in the classroom, their work throughout the academic year will be put in their own folder. Only the most necessary material (photocopied form) is taken home. The material they share is also kept in the classroom.

Results, the usefulness of the project for the members of the aim group

Introducing the “outside class” more and more students will be able to get their primary school certificate. With this knowledge some of the students will be able to continue their studies and learn a profession. While other students, thanks to the skill development and aimed activities of the “outside class”, will be able to gain the minimum knowledge which is necessary to their everyday life and be more prepared for a self-sufficient lifestyle. Thanks to this education and the individual personal development, there will be a decrease in the number of those students who have a deviant behaviour play truant. At the same time the chances of being unemployed and being able to live without benefits will increase. This project can increase the number of those youngsters who are self-sufficient, live a normal life and do not depend on benefits, which is a rather important factor considering the whole society.

Financing and maintenance

The room of the outside class has been renovated with the help of the SED (Solidaridad Educacion y Desarrollo). The Caritas Austria, helped us to provide the financial facilities of the project with the collection of private and business donations. With their help we can maintain our programme for two years.

The budget is the following:

	HUF/month	month/year	HUF	EUR
Teacher's salary	177.800	12	2.133.600	7.902,22
Renovation	8.000	12	96.000	355,56
Expenses	40.000	10	400.000	1.481,48
Phone and internet	15.000	12	180.000	666,67
School material (books, notebooks, etc)	20.000	10	200.000	740,74
Rent	0	12	0	0,00
			3.009.600	11.146,67

Our future aim is to get a constant support for our project. According to the National Educational Law it is possible by joining the so called Bridge programme. The Bridge programmes provide the possibility of studying for those students who on the basis of their age are obliged to study, but for some reason (they do not want or cannot) they are unable to finish primary school.

These programmes give individual help for the secondary education of the students or help them to learn a profession, find a job or gain sufficient knowledge to live an independent life later on.