

BaKo – Basiskommunikation zur Integration von blinden und sehbehinderten Personen

Pilot-Projekt

Due to the need for new targeted specific education programs for the promotion of blind and partially sighted persons and the resulting initiative of the NEBA-Blind and Visually Impaired Association, possibilities of a new course offer for persons with visual impairment or blindness were discussed.

As an association for the integration of people with a migrant background, with a focus on persons with health impairments, UKI took up this request. Blind and partially sighted persons have already participated in our project MigAktivplus, which won the MigAward in 2017, in the past. The development and implementation of German and communication courses especially for blind or visually impaired people is a logical further development of the support offered by our association.

Ausgangslage

Oral communication is the essential channel to the environment for blind and visually impaired people. Lack of linguistic competence in the new lifeworld leads to dependency relationships and disorientation. Therefore, the relevance to learn German as a foreign language is very high.

The offer of German courses for people who have fled or migrated to Austria is insufficient for blind and visually impaired people. Participation is mostly not possible due to their special needs. Lack of literacy and educational experience in the mother tongue in some cases makes access to the new language more difficult. This can not be taken into account in conventional German courses.

Strategie

Ziel

Blind and partially sighted persons need special support to learn German. Parallel to the acquisition of the German language, the course aims at activation, strengthening the ability to concentrate, more active communication, listening comprehension.


The participants are then able to independent language action in a position. This enables them to take an active part in social life in Austria.

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Depending on existing knowledge, participants can, after the end of the course in the individual sub-areas, hear, understand, (in exceptional cases read & write) according to the individual levels, reach the defined goals, oriented to the provisions of the European Reference Framework for Languages. Such as. for level A1:

- understand simple instructions, hints and information
- participate in simple conversations about a predictable topic
- express simple opinions or wishes

Wirkung

The possibility of linguistic understanding reduces the risk of isolation and increases the chance of integration in Austria in the social and labor market.

Zielgruppe

- Asylum seekers, persons entitled to asylum, Convention refugees or recognized refugees, beneficiaries of subsidiary protection
- People who can not attend traditional courses due to their visual impairment.
- Non-German native language
- Persons with and without education (illiterate, Latin alphabet not mastered)
- Persons with and without work experience

Durchführung

The course is conducted in tandem with the coaching team. The main trainer has the necessary qualifications in German as a second language as well as experience in working with blind and visually impaired persons and incorporates these into structure and choice of method.


- ✓ Action-oriented, holistic instruction in small groups
- ✓ individualized pedagogic approach and support, embedded in a structured training everyday
- ✓ Pragmatic language-based approach based on motivation to talk
- ✓ Grammar is offered only in a communicative context
- ✓ The materials allow open lessons with different forms of work, social and exercise

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Two groups are formed (maximum of 4 participants):

- ✓ Persons without education, illiterate people: no knowledge of German
- ✓ Persons with school education and work experience: little knowledge of German

The trainer also decides on a possible use of the recording and playback device Milestone for the participants. The handling of the device can be done by TSB in the classroom.

Zeitplan

The course takes place daily, Monday through Friday. Each group is taught in two sessions for 45 minutes.

The duration of the course is set at six months. This is followed by an evaluation that serves as the basis for planning a continuation of the project.

The course participants therefore receive a total of 240 UE. Taking into account the specific needs of the target group, this roughly corresponds to the current requirements of the ÖIF for attaining a language level (160-200 hours).

Finanzierung

Participant financing is provided via the Public Employment Service Vienna, the Austrian Integration Fund and the projekt is supported by the Ministry of Social Affairs.