

What is Inclusive Education?

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION MEANS THAT **ALL STUDENTS** ATTEND AND ARE WELCOMED BY THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS IN AGE-APPROPRIATE, REGULAR CLASSES AND ARE SUPPORTED TO LEARN, CONTRIBUTE AND PARTICIPATE IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE LIFE OF THE SCHOOL.

What we expected.....

- ▶ a plan to support teachers and students through good inclusive practices
- ▶ professional development for all teachers involved
- ▶ reduced class size based on the severity of the student needs
- ▶ support to the teachers by special pedagogues
- ▶ the presence of personal assistants in classrooms
- ▶ collaboration between parents, teachers and administrators

What we have.....

- ▶ classes up to 28 students
- ▶ no personal assistants in classrooms
- ▶ no methodical materials focused on needs of a particular student
- ▶ often without collaboration of parents
- ▶ we are concerned that we are being controlled more than we are supported

Everyday Reality

Teachers:

- ▶ We prepare fill-in-the-gap exercises for each student in particular class
- ▶ We select special activities for them
- ▶ With big amount of pupils in classes differentiation is not possible in a way that would be satisfactory
- ▶ Parents expect to do all the work by teachers – getting a „paper“ from a specialist does their part of the work, they don't have/want spend the necessary extra time with their child

Pupils

- ▶ They are lost sometimes in spite the fact they study a lot and their parents are really helpful. Spending lots of time... They sometimes do not feel the success that would be equal to their effort
- ▶ „I have a paper, I do not have to“ – The parents expect from us all work done at school and without objective evaluation. These kids attitude from home is „ I do not have to do this because.....“
- ▶ Due to the amount integrated kids (with various diagnoses) in our classrooms often one group is disadvantaged.

Specialist help at school

- ▶ School has a psychologist, who is at school a few hours a month checking the documentation of integrated children with the school educational adviser
- ▶ These kids attend appointments with a special pedagogist and/or usually once a year
- ▶ Educational adviser at school who is gathering the documentation from specialists and teachers as well

But....

- ▶ children are **AWESOME**
and we try to do our **BEST**
- ▶ and we **LOVE** them....

TOPS from kids

- ▶ Extra material from the teacher
- ▶ Extra explanation if needed
- ▶ Help from other pupils
- ▶ Not having grades for some tasks
- ▶ Fun in classes
- ▶ Attitude of some teachers
- ▶ Not having to do some tasks

TIPS from kids

- ▶ Have to study much more
- ▶ Not having such good grades
- ▶ Some tasks are very hard
- ▶ Feel lost sometimes
- ▶ Demotivation
- ▶ Parents do not have enough time or do cannot help in some subjects