







A good start for all: sustaining transitions across the early year



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Il contesto europeo



The role of ECEC in preventing ESL – (Rimantas, Peeters, Hayes et al., 2014)



 Obiettivi strategici della Commissione Europea ET2020:

accesso a servizi per l'infanzia di qualità e raccordo con la scuola primaria possono contribuire a ridurre i tassi di abbandono scolastico (<10% entro 2020)

Studi commissionati dalla DG EAC:

le transizioni giocano un ruolo cruciale nel favorire – oppure ostacolare - il successo scolastico dei bambini

- → soprattutto nei casi in cui i essi provengano da situazioni di svantaggio (povertà, background migratorio)
- Crescente interesse nel dibattito pedagogico internazionale, ma diverse prospettive:
- Prospettiva anticipazionista (school ready children) VS prospettiva ecologica (children ready schools)



The countries involved

Corby, UK:

- Pen Green
 Centre &
 Research Base
- Rockingham Primary
- Our Lady of Walsingham

Belgium /Flanders (Ghent & Aalst):

- VBJK
- Mezennestje childcare centre
- Sint Maarten kindergarten
- Mensen vor Mensen (AP)



Slovenia (Lubjana & Tisina):

- Educational Research Institute
- OSTisina (preand primary school)

Italia, RER:

- Bologna University
- DD Vignola (pre- and primary school)



Where does the project comes from? Shared concerns...

...the difficulties children experience over transitions have a long-term impact on their well-being and learning trajectores...

SMOOTH AND INCLUSIVE TRANSITIONS

Fragmentation of pedagogical approaches and practices (SPLIT SYSTEMS - ECEC/CSE)

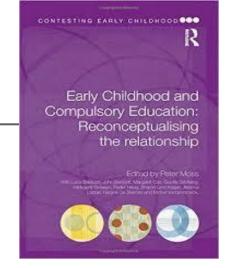
SHARING MEANINGS AND NEGOTIATING PRACTICES BY INVOLVING ALL ACTORS

...children who do not speak the dominant language and whose familes comes from different socio-cultural background are the ones experiencing more difficulties in this process...

PARTICIPATOR
Y ACTION
RESEARCH

→ Children are required 'to be ready' and to 'adapt' to what come next (kindergarten, school...)

...and will to change perspectives...



School readiness

- Learning in ECEC is functional to what come next (and ultimately the goal of schooling is to prepare responsible workers for labour market) - HIERARCHY
- early intervention for disadvantaged children
- Schoolification / preprimary approach to early education (formalised learning, narrow curriculum approach)

OMOLOGATION

Strong Equal Partership

- Each educational level is equally important, based on the acknowledgement that children learn in different ways at different times in life
- Interplay between continuity/discontinuity -COMPLEMENTARITY
- -Inter-institutional cooperation respecting the pedagogogical identity of each setting
- Mutual exchange re: approaches & methods

sion of a meeting place

- Dialogic perspective and shared vision - COMPENTRATION
- Negotatied values and pedagogical assumptions (image of the child, vision of learning, understanding of diversity...) -
- co-construction of educational contexts valuing multiple way of learning ('100 languages')
- Extended collegiality & shared reflection on practice and approaches

ETEROGENEITY



...how?

Partecipatory research approach involving all stakeholders (multiple perspectives): practitioners/teachers, children, families, community groups

Sustaining the empowerment of all actors involved starting form their needs and aspirations

(what matters to them about transitions?)

Recoursive interaction between research and experimentation, bewteen theory and practice

Peer-learning and reflection in groups

Pedagogical guidance



Participatory action research as shared framework

Continuity of children's learning and socialising experiences across preand primary school (Italy)

Analysis of local needs and resources (FGs, observations, conversations)

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Participation of children and families living in poverty during transition (Belgium/Flanders)

Transnational training and practitioners exchanges (Corby, DEC 2016)

Experimentation codesign, implementation and ongoing feedback

Transitional activities for Romani children and their families (Slovenia)

Analysis of pedagogical documentation, peer-learning, identification of good practices (recommendation)

parent professional partnership to ensure continuity from ECEC to school





Expected outcomes / processes activation

- ✓ Sustaining children and families in transitions from one educational setting to another – as well as from a context to another – by taking seriously into account their views for improving existing practices
- ✓ Rethinking the relationship bewteen ECEC and CSE from an 'INCLUSIVE PERSPECTIVE' which value diversity and welcome families' participation (also in primary school!)
- ✓ Creation of learning networks beyond the duration of the project for the dissemination of good practices at local level (sustainability over time) -> practitioners/teachers as trainers!
- ✓ Policy advocacy at local, regional, national and european level



LOGO START

Check out the project website for updates:

http://start.pei.si