

Inclusion of Multiculturalism in Educational Practice

We live in a multicultural society where family structures and needs are different from one family to the other

In order to provide all children with educational and social success teachers and staff need to make an effort to get to know each child and their family so that they can build the education, play and leisure activities on children's experience and knowledge.

The World Is Here

In May our guests got to visit the city hall and we had a lecture on Reykjavik's multicultural policy for education and leisure. “The world is here”





Developing the policy of multicultural education and leisure. Why and how?

- Demographic changes in the Icelandic society
 - The same applies to all education and leisure work of the city where diverse individuals work and study. It can therefore be said that “The world is here”.
- This reality creates a need to address challenges and opportunities in education in order to enhance social justice and equity for all children
- Political board of education and youth appointed a committee
 - Duration from 2011-2014 different chores among them to develop the policy in collaboration with all stakeholders
 - Representatives from teachers in pre- and compulsory schools, leisure, immigrant parents, university, all political parties and the department of education and youth
 - The policy was adopted by the city council 2014 and published 2015

The Core of the Policy

- Three main pillars
 - Diverse and inclusive teaching methods and practices
 - Icelandic as a second language and active multilingualism
 - Building partnership with parents

Guiding Light

All children and youth are successful in education and play, are socially successful and get an opportunity to take pride in their background and culture.

Partnership with Parents

- We live in a multicultural society where family structures and needs are different from one family to the other
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An Idea of Working with Parents

- There are many good ideas on working with parents and children to make their adjustment in a new school and a new culture more successful. We would like to tell you a little bit about the book of communication that is used a lot in schools in Iceland. The idea is to have a book that has pictures of all the activities that occur in a day in school.
- Pictures of the teachers, classmates, the school surroundings and activities over the day.

Book of Communication Between School and Family

- To make the adjustment period easier for children and parents
- Better access into a new language
- Build respect and knowledge for diverse mother languages
- Build on and empower identity, concept of self, interest and ability

- When we have worked with communication books we have tried to include as much information on the school day with pictures and then we write a short text in Icelandic explaining the picture and the parents write a text in their language and can explain to the child at home and talk about what they did in school that day.
- We encourage parents to also take photos and put in the book so we can talk about their home life when they come to school.
- This makes it easier for the child and the family to adopt to school life and for us the teachers to learn about the children's family and customs.



Linéa eldaði mat ú
Linéa þróaði essu



Mina →
að skera
peru
Alta
Schmidt
Bine



Linéa að
hjálpa ú

Heba →



← Ronja

Linéa við aðfa úr þvottum
ú App ú mackna

Linéa fór og
pissaði í klósett ú

←

Þvo hendur.
Hættu watchan.



↑
Linéa að borða epli
Linéa íst djúfal

Linéa var hentar getandi zu
Linéa dansaði í dag við
Prins Pólo - París Nordursins

- Communication books are a very effective tool to use when a child starts a new school in a new country and a new language environment.
- Hope you can learn a little bit about our approach on the communication book.
- Here is a link on a very well good communication book made by a preschool
- http://eldri.reykjavik.is/Portaldata/1/Resources/fj olmenningileikskola/leikskolinnMinn_Gardaborg.pdf