

Competence approach in France

Nathalie Lewi-Dumont

INS HEA (Suresnes, France)

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Important things new in France

- Decree (2006), *The common base of knowledge and skills* for pupils (after the 2005 law about education)
- Reform (starting 2010) in initial teacher education, with competences.

The common base of knowledge and skills

Takes the results into account:

- Big national consultation in France
- Recommendation of the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union on “key competences for lifelong learning”.
- International assessments, notably the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)

The common base of knowledge and skills

The Base lists the skills that should be acquired by all pupils at the end of their compulsory education.

- The Base has 7 pillars, seven main skills, each of which is broken down into knowledge, abilities and attitudes.

The common base of knowledge and skills

- Besides the Base, there are programs for each classe and each subject, which include now the competences of the Base.
- The competences of the Base are assessed (3 steps, 2nd, 5th and 9th grades).
- Each pupil has a personal booklet of competences.

The seven Pillars of the Base

- 1. Mastering the French language
Communication in the mother tongue
- 2. Speaking a modern foreign language
Communication in foreign languages
- 3. Basic knowledge in mathematics and scientific and technological culture
Mathematical competence and basic competences in science and technology

The seven Pillars of the Base

- 4. Mastering common information and communication technologies

Digital competence

- 5. Developing humanist culture

Cultural awareness and expression (C. 8)

- 6. Social and civic skills

Social and civic competences

The seven Pillars of the Base

- 7. Autonomy and initiative

Sense of initiative and entrepreneurship

Competence 5: learning to learn?

Initial Teacher education

- Common base is part of the training (teaching and assessing)
- They have to learn the program:
 - of each class
 - of different subjects (elementary) or the subjects (secondary) they teach

Initial Teacher education

- New, starting this year,
- Difficult to have an overview of the actual training policies in the country

Teachers' 10 competences

- 1 - Acting as a civil servant and in an ethical and responsible manner
- 2 - Mastering the French language to teach and communicate
- 3 - Mastering subjects and having general cultural literacy

Teachers' 10 competences

- 8 - Mastering information and communication techniques
- 10 – Training and innovating themselves
- Foreign language compulsory in masters' degree

Teachers' competences for Inclusion

- Competences 1, 2, 8, 10
- 4 - Designing and implementing teaching
- 5 - Organizing the work of the class
- **6 - Taking into account student diversity**
- 7 - Evaluating students
- 9 - Working as a team and cooperating with parents and school partners

CONCLUSION

- Impossible to assess now how new requirements for pupils and for teachers affect their competences (1st year TT and Base final assessment, stage 3).
- Base helps teachers teach to the skills of pupils with SEN(competence approach, but some are reluctant)
- Many teachers' competences meet the SEN

CONCLUSION 2

Some Universities propose a specialty about SEN education in their masters' for initial training.

Since some new teachers will have already had some training about special educational needs,

There is a wonder if there will still be a special training for teachers for the deaf, the blind, etc.

SO... A lot of questions remain unnanswered!

A question

- Inclusive teachers, yes!

But will that mean

children with VERY special needs (deaf, blind, with autism...) won't need special education teachers able to adapt for them the skills of the Common Base?