



# **PEDAGOGICAL PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT SYSTEM IN LITHUANIA**

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# Main forms of education of pupils with special needs:



- full integration (when the disabled are taught in mainstream classes);
- partial integration (when the disabled are taught in special classes at mainstream schools);
- education in a special education establishment;
- education at home.



# Curriculum:

- modified programme – a slightly modified general education programme allowing children to learn in accordance with the established education standards
- adapted programme
- special programme
  - The special and the adapted programmes do not correspond the state education standards



## **Children with special needs and their parents receive special pedagogical and psychological assistance from:**

- Special Educational Commissions at general education institutions;
- Pedagogical Psychological Services;
- Specialized services at health care institutions;
- Center for Special needs education and psychology.



# The model of special pedagogical and psychological support for SEN pupils in Lithuanian educational system

- **first level** – specialists, who work at school give special pedagogical and psychological support (special educational commission);
- **second level** – pedagogical psychological service at the municipal level;
- **third level** – Centre for special needs education and psychology.

# Special Education Commissions at Educational Institutions



The first level of pedagogical psychological support for children with special needs;

The main goal - to provide primary pedagogical- psychological assessment and special pedagogical psychological support in a nearest child's environment;

SEC operate in every educational



# Main functions of SEC are:

- to gather information about the child with learning problems and make a primary assessment of special educational needs;
- to discuss the ways and methods of teaching the child with learning problems;
- to consult child's parents (foster parents) and provide methodological support for teachers;





# Main functions of SEC are:

- to assign a modified education programme (in cases when child is assessed as having special educational needs)
- to give advises and evaluation of modified, adapted and individualized programmes prepared by teachers



# Main functions of SEC are:

- to appeal to the municipal PPS in cases when child has to be taught according to an adapted or a special programme;
- to make a decision to terminate special education if child makes a progress;
- to collaborate with municipal PPS in the field of providing special pedagogical and psychological support.

# **Municipal pedagogical psychological team consists of:**

- Psychologists
- Special teachers
- Speech therapists
- Neurologists
- Psychiatrists, teachers for the deaf, teachers for the blind, social teachers (in some cases).



# Main functions of PPS are:

- to assess child's developmental, psychological, learning problems and evaluate special needs;
- to construct recommendations on the adaptation of curriculum for child's special needs;
- to consult child's teachers and parents (foster parents) and provide methodological support;



# Main functions of PPS are:

- to consult children with psychological problems (behavioral, emotional problems, relationship with peers, parents, teachers, etc.)
- to implement programs and projects on the prevention of violence, bullying, drug abuse, suicides;
- to organize training courses, seminars, lectures for teachers, school specialists, parents on child psycho- emotional development, education;



# **Development of special pedagogical and psychological support system**

- there are 60 municipalities in Lithuania.
- till 2004 pedagogical psychological services existed only in 26 municipalities.
- there are 54 municipal pedagogical psychological services today.

# Center for special needs education and psychology



The main goal:  
to develop the special pedagogical and  
psychological support system in Lithuania  
and make this system more effective.

# Center's tasks:

- to create and implement the strategy of special pedagogical and psychological support system in Lithuania;
- to implement the system of provision of special education materials;
- to organize execution of national prevention programs, financed by the Ministry of Education and Science



# Main activities:

- coordinates the activities of first and second level of special pedagogical and psychological support system;
- develops legislation acts that follow the implementation of the Law on Special Education;
- organizes training programs for specialists – psychologists, special pedagogues, speech therapists, social pedagogues;
- provides methodical support for pedagogical psychological services on the municipal level;

# Main activities:

- evaluates special educational needs of a child on difficult or problematic cases.
- collects information about needs for pedagogical and psychological tests and organizes standardization and adaptation of pedagogical and psychological tests (WISC-III LT, Language assessment test);

# Main activities:

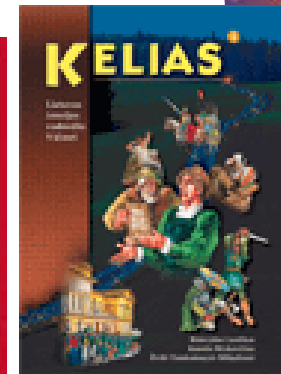
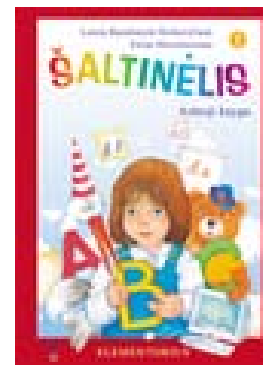
- makes suggestions to the Ministry of Education and Science for priorities of development and provision of special education materials;
- organizes and implements projects on special education materials produce;
- collects information about educational materials published in Lithuania and abroad, consider possibilities of adaptation;

# Main functions:

- Spreading information about SEM and development of catalogues

[www.sppc.lt](http://www.sppc.lt)

- Organizing of assessment of textbooks adaptated for SEN pupils



# Development and implementation of different preventive programs:



- ☐ National Programme for Drug Control and Prevention of Drug Abuse
- ☐ Olweus Bullying at School prevention Programme

# Development and implementation of the projects financed by EU



- Bringing back the dropouts to regular school;
- Development of special educational materials
- Enhancement of quality and effectiveness of support system for pupils
- Development of educational forms for SEN pupils



# Thank you for your attention.

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