

Opinion on Education Programmes for Basic Education

This opinion results from the conclusions of the joint meeting of representatives of the MEYS, the Research Pedagogical Institute and the CSI held on 8 March 2010.

Common Ground in the Area of Basic Education

Education provided within the education programme “Basic School” is currently performed according to the FEP BE (or the FEP BE – light mental disorders). Furthermore, there are “old” education programmes entitled “Basic School”, “Elementary School”, and “National School”, which, however, are about to terminate.

Moreover, there is also an education programme entitled “Special School”, which is also to terminate soon (in the school year 2009/2010 it was valid only for 9th grades) and the Rehabilitation Education Programme pertaining to the field of education known as “Auxiliary School”.

The FEP for Special Basic Schools has been published for pupils with special education needs such as intellectual disability or heavy mental retardation or a combination of disabilities. This FEP will be binding from the school year 2010/2011 in 1st grades and 7th grades.

Principles of Approach towards the FEP BE – Light Mental Disorder

The Annex to the Framework Education Programme for Basic Education regulating the education of pupils suffering from light mental disorders is not a separate education programme but it forms a part of the FEP BE as an education programme within the meaning of the provisions of Sec. 49 (2) of Act No. 561/2004 Coll. on Pre-school, Basic, Secondary and Tertiary Professional Education (the Education Act), as amended (the Framework Education Programme for Basic Education for Disabled Pupils). The consequences of such a situation are as follows:

1. The legal person performing activities of a school which is registered in the Register of Schools and recorded in this Register the field of education 79-01-C/01 Basic school can provide education according to the FEP BE and/or FEP BE – Light Mental Disorders (this is an integral Annex). Provision of education according to the FEP BE – Light Mental Disorders is not expressly recorded in the Register of Schools.
2. If a pupil is to be educated according to the FEP BE – Light Mental Disorders, it is necessary to transfer him/her to the education programme pursuant to Sec. 49 (2) of the Education Act.
3. Although the FEP BE – Light Mental Disorders is not a separate framework education programme schools are obliged to draw up a separate SEP or a separate Annex to the SEP on the basis of this type of the FEP. An individually integrated pupil can be educated only according to the individual education plan drawn up in accordance with the FEP BE – Light Mental Disorders and not according to the SEP.
4. The FEP BE – Light Mental Disorders as an Annex to the FEP BE will be taken into account if a pupil has been diagnosed as a child with a light mental disorder. This means that this FEP also applies to a pupil who has not been transferred to any other education programme, which can happen if the relevant school advisory centre has not issued a recommendation for such a transfer but it recommended education according to the individual education plan. Therefore the pupil will be educated according to the individual education plan, which will be based on the FEP BE – Light Mental Disorders although it will cover only some areas (subjects).