



guage, Czech Language (16) and a Foreign Language (12), Mathematics and Its Application (12), Information and Communication Technologies (1), Humans and Society – History and Civic Education (12), Humans and Nature – physics, chemistry, nature and geography (22), Arts and Culture – music and fine arts (10), Humans and Health – Health Education and Physical Education (11), Humans and the World of Work (4);

- c. minimal time allotment for individual educational areas;
- d. an obligation to include cross-curricular topics at all levels;
- e. available time allotment at the discretion of the school;
- f. total obligatory time allotment for both elementary and lower-secondary levels of basic education;
- g. notes concerning the educational areas (educational fields) in the framework curriculum.

In 2007 some amendments were made. The proportion of available lessons chosen at the discretion of the school was increased by decreasing the minimal time allotment in educational fields; the obligation to establish optional subjects was removed from 7th to 9th grades, and the obligation to include some educational fields for the whole of basic education was changed. The number of available lessons chosen at the discretion of the school was increased at the elementary level of basic schools to 14 lessons while at the same time minimal time allotment for the Czech Language was lowered by three lessons and Mathematics by two lessons. At the second level of basic schools (lower-secondary level) allotment of available lessons was increased to 24 lessons; time allotment for Mathematics, Czech Language, Humans and Society, Humans and Nature, Humans and the World of Work, Humans and Health was decreased. Thus the framework curriculum was made less stringent.

According to the statistical records the proportion of pupils included in lessons of optional subjects (obligatory) was approximately 53 % of pupils of BSs. Instruction in optional subjects (not obligatory) was attended by only 11.2 % of all pupils.

Amendments to curricula made in 2008 were not very effective in practical application, as the majority of schools used the available lessons to increase lessons in the Czech Language and Mathematics. The following overview summarises the results of a pilot survey concerning this issue (150 basic schools).

Table 28 Most frequent use of available lessons within time allotment in basic schools

Subject/educational area – occurrence in %	Elementary level	Lower-secondary level of BSs
Czech Language and Literature	89.7	89.7
Mathematics and Its Application	88.1	86.5
Humans and Their World	76.2	-
Humans and Nature	-	19.2
Obligatory optional subjects	-	89.7

