



MICR@S
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3rd Article

MICR@S PROJECT



MICR@S PROJECT: THE VALUE OF INCLUDING STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS IN SCHOOL METHODOLOGIES

The inclusion of students with **Special Educational Needs** (SEN) is one of the most relevant challenges for today's education system. Schools reflect the changing nature of our society and must inevitably adapt to the demands and needs of the age in which they are called upon to operate. This is why it is necessary to talk about 'inclusion' in schools and why it must be a topic at the centre of discussions related to the world of education.

According to the article 'Inclusive or special needs education? Current trends and considerations across Europe'[Reference 1] approximately 4.5% of students in Europe are considered to belong to the SEN category, although the percentages vary widely between countries and in many cases are increasing. This increase unfortunately pays for the lack of sufficient resources to support school inclusion and many schools in Europe still use 'special schools' to manage SEN students. As the **Eurydice Report 2024 'Promoting diversity and inclusion in schools in Europe'** shows,[Reference 2] inclusion must be a guaranteed right in order to promote diversity in all its forms in our society. That is why school inclusion must be seen as a key component of education in Europe and must take responsibility for ensuring equal opportunities for success for all. School must become a place where every student feels welcome and valued, regardless of their difficulties or differences. This is why talking about SEN students' inclusiveness requires an approach to profound change in teaching practices, curricula and assessment systems.

The **Micre@S project**, for this reason, wanted to give prominence to the figure of SEN students in its methodologies, in order to trigger a positive change towards this type of inclusion in schools and educational systems.



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As the Eurydice Report points out, in fact, it is necessary to adopt flexible and diversified didactic approaches, capable of responding to the specific needs of each student, adapting school curricula and teaching methods to include all students, especially those with disabilities or special needs.

The education system's focus on this category of students will benefit not only SEN students, but also the entire school community, helping to reduce negative phenomena such as bullying and discrimination and promoting a more cohesive school community that respects diversity.

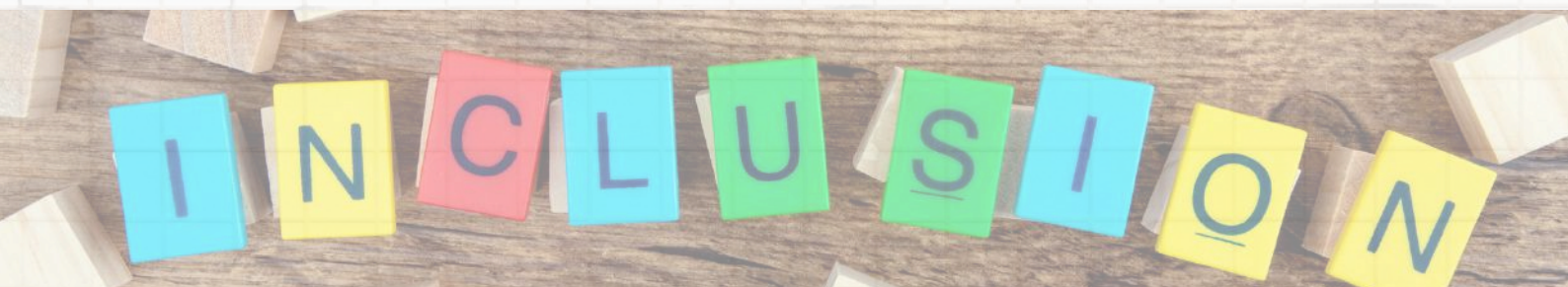
This type of inclusion requires an effort from the school system also in terms of continuous and targeted training of teachers, as indicated by the Eurydice Report mentioned above, who must acquire skills to manage heterogeneous classes creating a positive learning environment for all. The Micras project contributes to this aim by releasing to the entire school community, free and available material that teachers can use as a teaching methodology attentive to inclusion. The material developed within the Micras project focuses on teaching entrepreneurial skills to students, while at the same time helping them to reflect on inclusion and work in heterogeneous groups taking into account all students' needs. We hope that the project can contribute to a school system that is able to promote the full potential of every student and help build a more just and inclusive society.

References:

[1] European School Education Platform. (2022). Inclusive or special needs education? Current trends and considerations across Europe. European School Education Platform. <https://school-education.ec.europa.eu/en/discover/viewpoints/inclusive-or-special-needs-education>

[2] European Commission: European Education and Culture Executive Agency, Promoting diversity and inclusion in schools in Europe, Publications Office of the European Union, 2023 <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2797/443509>

To learn more about the project and discover the new teaching methodologies proposed by the Micras project, go to the **project website: <https://micrasatschool.eu/>**



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