Abstract

The topic of this thesis is "Pupil with Autism Spectrum Disorder in a Mainstream School – Case Study of a Pupil in Elementary School and Secondary School". The first, theoretical, part of the thesis deals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and diagnostics; it will also address current legislative changes of the educational system in the Czech Republic as well as the counseling system, school counseling centers, and school counseling facilities. The second, practical, part will deal with the process of educating pupils with ASD in mainstream elementary schools and secondary schools.

The aim of my research was to determine how pupils with ASD were able to integrate into a standard primary school and secondary. I focused on approaches and methods used in the educational process, especially on structured learning, as well as on the teachers' readiness to integrate pupils with special educational needs.

The research was conducted in České Budějovice, at the J. Š. Baar Elementary School and Kindergarten, and at the J. V. Jirsík Gymnasium. I used the observation method, interviews with the legal representatives of both pupils, teachers and teachers' assistants, and direct work with autistic pupils; I also had the opportunity to teach the pupil at the gymnasium during my teaching practice as part of my follow-up master's degree studies. I analyzed the school documentation of both pupils, especially the individual educational plans and the recommendations from the special education center, and their medical documentation.