

ABSTRACT

This master thesis focuses on the still highly debated topic of inclusive education. The main aim of the thesis is to investigate the approach to execution of inclusive education at selected elementary school. Through research questions, the thesis finds out what circumstances contribute to implementation and acceptance of the inclusive education. The theoretical part of the thesis, based on the literature, describes the topic of inclusive education related to its development, legislative anchoring, and current perception. It also discusses the nature of an inclusive school, its establishment, evaluation, basic principles, participants and, last but not least, the benefits and pitfalls of inclusive education. The practical part of the thesis contains qualitative research carried out using the case study method. To gather the research data, structured interviews with nine respondents is used. The research investigates quality of the inclusive policy at the selected elementary school. It examines the school's openness to the inclusion of pupils with special educational needs and whether their education is properly staffed. Mutual cooperation of all the participants in the educational and upbringing process within and outside the school is investigated. Furthermore, the main factors influencing the attitude, motivation and support of the teaching staff (including the management) towards the implementation of inclusive education are explored. Finally, it identifies the benefits, the challenges and ultimately the vision of the school to further develop inclusive education. Based on the research results when compared to expert findings of other authors, the selected elementary school can be identified as a good example of successful implementation. The thesis thus forms recommendations that can be used to implement inclusive education. Other schools may draw inspiration from this thesis in their efforts to successfully implement inclusive education. It is intended not only for teaching staff and school management, but also for the general public that wishes to gain more knowledge on the topic.