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**MODEL OF AN INNOVATIVE SCHOOL DESIGNED  
FOR TEACHING AND TRAINING ENGLISH  
TO STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**<https://doi.org/10.34739/sn.2022.22.04>

**Abstract:** In the Republic of Bulgaria in 2017 a process of transformation of schools began, in order for them to meet the new educational structure, which is pledged in the School Education Act. The new standard is for defining and building national innovative schools [School Education Act 2020]. By Order № RD 09-1746 /01.11.2016 of the Minister of Education and Science, the "Commission for Innovative Schools" has been determined. Approved by the Minister of Education and Science "Rules for the organization of the activities of the commission" through Ordinance №9 [Ordinance № 9 for the institutions in the system of pre-school and school education 2019]. Primary school "Neofit Rilski" Kilifarevo offers a model of an innovative school designed for teaching and learning English to students with special educational needs. The expected results of the proposed model for teaching and learning are presented through the achieved significantly higher annual success of students with special educational needs in school. Teaching requires the teacher to prepare learning content on a scientifically sound basis for the English lesson using Multiple Intelligence Theory. The proposed model of an innovative school is active.

**Keywords:** *innovative school, teaching, training, English, students, special educational needs*

**Introduction**

The relevance of the researched problem: using a model of an innovative school designed for teaching and training English to students with special educational needs is determined by the need to improve the quality of teaching and learning English to these students. The specifics of the model: "Innovative schools" offers diversification of the learning process by introducing more technologies in the classroom, such as: working with smart applications, tablets, virtual boards and virtual classrooms. And all this is

achieved by changing the learning environment and the duration of the lesson [School Education Act 2020].

According to the Ministry of Education and Science, innovative schools are the schools of the future. Innovative means something new, original, part of the future, future technologies and more [Bulgarian Interpretive Dictionary 2009]. In order to define a school as innovative, it must: aim to improve the quality of education by introducing and developing innovative methods in the content and organization of education; to use new and modern approaches to teaching; to shape in a new way the educational environment, the learning process and the management of the administration; to organize and develop in a new and more easily accessible way the educational content, the curricula and plans [School Education Act 2020].

The model of the innovative **Primary School "Neofit Rilski" Kilifarevo, area Veliko Tarnovo** district applies innovative processes that cover children with specific educational needs in the educational process of learning English. For each school year, the stages of progress and the results to be monitored are specifically described. They define the goals and ideas related to the personal, intellectual and emotional development of students [School Education Act 2020].

Teaching and training English in the innovative school to students with special needs is a scientifically based and proven prescription that offers opportunities for various practical solutions, solving the problem of communication skills, according to the specific situation in learning a foreign language in the innovative school. [Rangelova 2009].

The applied model of the innovative school requires the teaching technology to contain elements of standardization and innovation. The innovative technology has a complex and hierarchical character, it reveals a complex of communicative mechanisms that can solve the defined learning problem. The effectiveness of the technology presents the formed communicative skills in the teaching of English to the students with special educational needs [Rangelova, 2009].

Innovative technology combines in dialectical unity the technology of the activity of the students with special educational needs and the technology of the activity of the teacher teaching the discipline - English language. It is flexible and diverse in relation to the students and personalized in relation to the activity of the teacher. Technology recommends the develop-

ment of creativity and innovation in the implementation of pedagogical interaction [Rangelova, 2009].

The model of an innovative school for teaching and educating students with special needs in the English language discipline determines the specifics of working with children with special needs. Their training requires good theoretical and practical training of the teacher, specialist in English, his motivation for work and his extensive teaching and socio-therapeutic practice. The new vision for the role of the teacher in English language teaching and the changed structure of communication in the lesson determine the effectiveness of the applied model of innovative teaching and learning of students with special needs in English language [Zheleva, 2019].

### **Purpose**

**The purpose of the scientific communication** is to reveal and outline the organizational pedagogical conditions and the effectiveness of the applied model of innovative teaching and learning of students with special needs in English in Primary School "Neofit Rilski" Kilifarevo.

### **Material and methods**

**The tasks of the research are:** to reveal the role and importance of teaching and educating students with special needs in English in the innovative school. In the process of the research the **methods** were used: survey, purposefully included observation and pedagogical experiment. **The object of the study** are students with special needs in Primary School "Neofit Rilski" Kilifarevo. **The subject of the study** is the process and conditions under which the model of the innovative school, developed in the Primary School "Neofit Rilski" in Kilifarevo is designed to teach and educate students with special educational needs in English. The used innovative technologies are a condition and a factor for better acquisition of knowledge and skills by students with special needs.

### **Results and discussion**

The analysis of the survey among the respondents shows that the applied model of innovative teaching and learning of students with special needs in English leads to the achievement of targeted, planned and controlled

change to solve organizational and content problems in the educational process and improve the quality of English language training.

Targeted included monitoring provided information on the developed and introduced innovative elements regarding the organization and / or content of the training. The conducted pedagogical experiment proved that the newly developed curriculum, curricula and study plans require the application and use of new innovative methods of teaching a foreign language. The conducted research found that the proposed model organizes in a new or improved way the management, training and learning environment in the primary innovative school.

The study proved that students with special needs, if they are active participants in the process of learning English, they will be able to change its course through their own experiences and experiences.

## **Conclusion**

The model of an innovative school designed for teaching and teaching English to students with special educational needs shows the emphasized great interest in innovative learning, regardless of their success. The analysis of the results allows us to conclude that the innovative teaching of the English language discipline to students with special educational needs contributes to increasing their success. The innovative school effectively complements the educational process. Facilitates and diversifies English language learning. All this increases the motivation to learn English and good communication with students with special educational needs.

## **Inferences**

The model of an innovative school designed for teaching and learning English to students with special educational needs involves the application of the "Dale Learning Cone", where the teacher in the interactive English lesson includes: reading, listening, observing, observing and explaining, discussion, questions, small group work, practical exercises, projects, assignments and essays.

## Literature

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