

INTRODUCING BILINGUAL ENGLISH AND SERBIAN TEACHING INTO THE AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF VOJVODINA EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

A Project by the Government of The AP of Vojvodina

WHAT DOES *BILINGUAL TEACHING* MEAN?

Bilingual Teaching is a specific kind of teaching both in English and Serbian, conducted within the syllabus approved by The Republic of Serbia Ministry of Education. Students are taught exactly the same amount of material and according to the same criteria as any other student attending classes taught exclusively in Serbian.

Serbian and English do not exclude, but rather complement each other.

WHY DO WE INTRODUCE *BILINGUAL TEACHING* IN THE FIRST PLACE?

We do it because.....it will enable the children:

- .. .to build exceptional linguistic and communicational skills and competence
- ...expanding and mastering their technical vocabulary in each English-taught subject
- vocabulary of every subject in particular
- .. .a greater chance of acquiring internationally recognized certificates
- ...an opportunity to overcome their personal, communicational and cultural differences
- ...a greater level of awareness, understanding and tolerance towards other people, cultures and languages
- .. .a greater chance of employment in future

ARE BILINGUAL STUDENTS TAUGHT EXACTLY THE SAME AMOUNT OF MATERIAL AND ACCORDING TO THE SAME CRITERIA AS ANY OTHER STUDENT?

Yes!

WHAT IS THE EXACT PERCENTAGE OF TEACHING CONDUCTED IN ENGLISH?

The Project provides *Bilingual Teaching* at all levels of education within the annual syllabuses approved by The Republic of Serbia Ministry of Education for at least 30%, and the maximum not exceeding 45%

AT WHICH LEVELS OF EDUCATION DO WE PLAN TO INTRODUCE *BILINGUAL TEACHING*?

PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Into the syllabus approved by The Republic of Serbia Ministry of Education we introduce the first year of a three-year Cambridge international curriculum (which is a program intended for children from the age of 5.5 to 7 years).

- introduction of *Bilingual Teaching* into the preschool education system is planned in September 2010

PRIMARY EDUCATION

Bilingual Teaching within the primary school education system presupposes:

- partial** introduction and implementation of *Bilingual Teaching* into the first cycle of primary school education (from 1st grade onwards), which is due to start in 2011/2012 academic year;
- **partial** introduction and implementation of *Bilingual Teaching* into the second cycle of primary school education (from 6th grade onwards), which is due to start in 2011/2012 academic year;

The English part of teaching follows the Cambridge International Primary Programme (from 1st to 5th grade) and the Cambridge Lower Secondary Programme (from 6th to 8th grade)

SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

The English part of teaching follows the IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) - the world's most popular Cambridge international program. The program is designed for students from the age of 14 to 16, and is adapted to the syllabus approved by The Republic of Serbia Ministry of Education.

- an important novelty is that *Jovan Jovanovic* High School plans introducing internationally recognized graduation exams and **IB diploma** system. This diploma would testify high academic level and enable the students to enroll universities in over 110 countries, including most renowned ones. Depending

on the graduation exam results, students will also be able to get partial or full scholarships at certain universities

- introduction of *Bilingual Teaching* into the secondary school system is planned in September 2011
- introducing internationally recognized graduation exams program is planned in 2013/2014 academic year;

ARE STUDENTS ALLOWED TO QUIT BILINGUAL CLASSES THEY ARE TAKING AND WHAT IF THEY DO?

Certainly. Any child/student is allowed to quit bilingual classes they attend, they can do so at any given point and continue with classes taught in Serbian.

WHY DID WE OPT FOR A CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM?

Why is Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) one of the world's leading institutions offering programs for all levels of education - from preschool to high school?

Because over 9 000 schools/examination centers in over 150 countries worldwide carry out Cambridge programs, and because over two million students take CIE exams every year.

Because Cambridge examination results are recognized by universities, colleges, employers all over the world.

Because one of the aims of the Project for the academic year 2010/2011 is to establish the first licensed Cambridge center in Vojvodina in Jovan Jovanovic High School in Novi Sad, where all those interested - not only students - will be able to attend training sessions and sit CIE exams.

WHAT ARE THE NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS OF THE *BILINGUAL* *TEACHING* STAFF?

All teachers willing to participate in the Project, i.e. conduct the bilingual teaching, must have already obtained at least a B2-level English language certificate.

FURTHER INFORMATION Provincial
Secretariat for Education

<http://www.obrazovanje.vojvodina.gov.rs>

Ivana Kropf-Gligorovic

Project Leader

mail: ivana.gligorovic@vojvodina.gov.rs

Tatjana Kuran
Preschool Education Coordinator
mail: [tatjana.kuran\(o\),vojvodina.gov.rs](mailto:tatjana.kuran(o),vojvodina.gov.rs)

Milica Gagic
Primary and Secondary Education Coordinator
mail: milica.gagic@,vojvodina.gov.rs