
IMST

The objective

Children who enjoy learning.
Children who learn a great deal.
Children who are interested.

Josef Gottsbachner (Sacre Coeur Grammar School in Pressbaum)
"To apply data logging and analysis, and thereby encourage and promote the self-study and independent activities of pupils"
The project report findings are available online in the IMST wiki www.imst.ac.at/wiki

Konrad Steiner (formerly HLFS – higher technical college for agriculture and forestry)
"Synthetic biology on trial in the school"

With teachers who help them.

IMST therefore supports teaching staff.

IMST Congress 2009

Robert Boczek (Bad
"The encouragement of individual, computer-aided learning methods
supported by the Moodle learning
The project report findings are available online in the IMST

Vöslau primary school)
in specialised subjects,
management system"
wiki: www.imst.ac.at/wiki

The challenge

Austria's educational system performs below average in international school inspections, such as TIMSS and PISA. Problem areas are mathematics and science, as well as reading proficiency. The performance of pupils lies well below their foreign counterparts and pupils generally show little interest for mathematics and science.

A study has attempted to provide reasons for this: **New scientific insight into teaching a particular subject (teaching methodology) is seldom practised or applied to the lesson. At the same time, teachers are often fighting their own battle in attempting to raise the standard of teaching.**

The solution

The nationwide **IMST (Innovations make schools top)** project offers a solution. Scientific researchers support teachers in raising the standard of their lessons.
Within networks, staff and teachers have the opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss their lessons and schools.

Ida Regl (Lichtenberg primary school)
"Sunny Side Up"
Photo: Hermann Wakolbinger
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Putting it into practice

Input and support from the teaching staff themselves is essential to the success of the project. Equally important is an acknowledgement that their standard of their lessons can be raised and develop ideas, which are then proposed as **IMST themed programmes**. This is available to mathematics, information technology, science, German and technology teachers in all school forms. Experts and scientific researchers supervise the teachers throughout the implementation of the projects, with innovative concepts arising. These may also be introduced into a number of different schools.

The roles of the **IMST networking project** include to increase the circulation and further develop the network, as well as **supporting the creation and expansion of regional networks** throughout all of Austria's Federal states. These networks form a platform between theory and practice, and support the open exchange of issues related to schools and teaching.

The strategy

IMST can be applied to both **single lessons** as well as **educational structures**. Teaching staff take the initiative to run innovative teaching and educational projects, and work together in the networks. At the same time, IMST goes a step further, and cooperate closely with teacher training colleges and universities on these themed programmes. The federal school inspectors are also active within these networks, and irrespective of the long-term school structure debate, take the opportunity to establish workable co-operations and assist in making use of **synergies within the educational system**.

Anna Krizan (Leobersdorf primary school)
"Support of an interlinked thought approach to mathematics, aided by the use of computers and mind maps"
The project report findings are available online in the IMST wiki: www.imst.ac.at/wiki












IMST: Many people. Many institutions. One goal.

The BMUKK is a principle financial supporter of IMST. Its implementation is coordinated and supervised by the Institute of Instructional and School Development at the Alpen-Adria University of Klagenfurt. Over 84 people from twenty institutions currently work in the network and themed programmes, and every year, approximately 100 projects and networks are supported in all nine Federal states. Some 7,000 teaching staff are involved annually. **They are all IMST.**

"I met colleagues and saw that they were experiencing similar problems. Discussions with them helped me to find new methods in teaching."

"A positive aspect of IMST is that teachers are encouraged to work together, and no longer have to work alone."

"IMST not only helped me to develop a new sense to my personal skills as a teacher, it also increased my self-esteem."

"At IMST, theory and practical experience are by no means areas of conflict or tension, but rather form an equal balance with each other."

Want to be involved?

Please find further details related to the project on this link www.imst.ac.at

Projects that have already been successfully implemented can be found in the IMST wiki: www.imst.ac.at/wiki

We welcome all teachers specialising in mathematics, information technology, science, German and technology from all forms of schools to apply. Please do not hesitate in contacting us via email

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or by telephone

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Photo: AVAVA, fotolia.c


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4x4=16
4x5=20
4x6=24

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Working together with many partners,
such as Federal school inspectors, teacher training colleges and universities,
as well as educational establishments

bm:uk Bundesministerium für Unterricht, Kunst und Kultur