



ILP - Het Koers

Observation place

We observed this pedagogy at "Het College", a general school (VWO = Voorbereidend wetenschappelijk onderwijs) of Weert in the Netherlands (Province of Limburg). This school serves young people after elementary school to prepare them in 6 years for university or higher technical studies. In addition to bilingual classes and classical education, a motivated teaching team has created an individualized first level teaching unit, called "Het Koers", limited to 40 students in the first schoolyear and another 40 students in the 2nd schoolyear.

Brief description

"Het Koers" is a vision based on the inverted class pedagogy pushed to the extreme: the students themselves determine their own schedule of the week (with the exception of the gym class). They study at their own pace and choose when they want to be assessed, within a schedule set at the beginning of the year. Teachers are at their disposal to help them. Sometimes there are group lessons, but students do not have to follow them. They must simply be present at school and make every effort to pass the intermediate exams and the final external exam. The project has been in existence for two years, so it is still in a trial period but it meets a certain success among students and their parents. The idea is to extend the principle to other degrees.

Presentation of the ILP tool

Each student works with a laptop and uses mainly two programs:

- "Magister" connects him (and his parents) to the administrative aspect of his studies (schedules, calendar, results of evaluations, absences, etc.);
- "Learning Portal", a multimedia platform from Swedish education ("Kunskapsskolan"), translated and adapted to the Dutch education system, allows students to set their objectives by subject (which constitutes a real Individual Learning Plan) and to work on video capsules, self-correcting exercises, etc.

The student is supervised by two reference teachers who play the role of coaches: they guide the student in relation to his learning methods, his working time, etc. A meeting of 15 minutes is scheduled every week. So we see here a real Individual Learning Plan and not an Individual Remediation Plan! The student him/herself creates the ILP under the supervision of one or more coaches whom he meets whenever he wants. The readjustments are almost direct and there are no remedial tuition as such but rather explanations on demand, personalized remediation.

Keywords

Autonomy - empowerment - coaching

Authors: Yasemin Armut, Stéphan Defresne, Christian Dooreman, Pascal Halleman, Maurine Hanique, Sabine Haot

