

MUNICIPALITY OF BALATONFÜZFŐ RAINBOW KINDERGARTEN AND NURSERY INSPIRATIONAL GOOD PRACTICE

"School becomes a place children look forward to when it already feels familiar to them in kindergarten."

1. The good practice in brief

The pedagogical programme of the Rainbow Kindergarten and Nursery of the Municipality of Balatonfűzfő describes the **"School Welcome" (SULIVÁRÓ)** programme as a project covering the entire educational year, implemented jointly with the teaching staff of Irinyi János Primary School and Primary Art School. The aim of the programme is to ensure that the transition from kindergarten to school is not a sudden change, but a gradual transition based on positive experiences.

2. What happens in practice?

- Kindergarten children become familiar with the school building, its spaces and everyday life.
- They have the opportunity to attend cultural programmes at the school and take part in school visits.
- Kindergarten and school teachers coordinate their efforts to support the children's transition.
- The future first-grade teacher becomes familiar with the specific features of kindergarten education, while kindergarten teachers gain an understanding of the expectations of the first grade.
- Parents can also participate in school visits and in the transition process.
- The kindergarten follows the children's adjustment to school.

3. What makes this more than a "getting ready for school" programme?

The aim is not for children to start behaving "like schoolchildren" as early as possible. The focus is on familiarity, trust and building relationships. The child becomes familiar with their future environment, while the parent takes part as a partner. At the same time, kindergarten and school teachers do not think about the child separately and one after another, but work together and share their perspectives.

4. Why can this be inspiring for other communities?

- It does not require special infrastructure: the most important resource is a community of teachers who are willing to cooperate.
- The programme is built around small steps, making it easy to adapt to local circumstances.
- The child, the family and the institutions all become participants in the transition process.

- The model can easily be adapted to other communities: kindergarten–school cooperation, joint activities, coordination between teachers, parental participation and follow-up.

5. Connection to the TANDEM approach

The practice is based on participation and community connections. Children are not merely passive participants in a change of institution; they gradually discover their new community. Parents become involved, while the institutions share their knowledge and experience with each other. This is a small-scale but highly transferable example of local cooperation and inclusive community building, directly connected to the objectives of the TANDEM project.

„Why are we afraid of something we do not know yet?”

A probléma: az óvoda és az iskola közötti átmenet sok gyermeknek és családnak nagy változás.

A válasz: a Suliváró nem egyetlen rendezvény, hanem egy egész éven át épített kapcsolat.

A kulcs: találkozás – élmény – bizalom – együttműködés – utánkövetés.

The challenge: The transition between kindergarten and school represents a major change for many children and families.

The response: School Welcome is not a single event, but a relationship built throughout the entire year.

The key: Meeting – Experience – Trust – Cooperation – Follow-up

„The goal is not for a child to become a schoolchild while still in kindergarten. The goal is that when the time comes to start school, they do not arrive at an unfamiliar place.”