Workshop – Prague – 14th / 15th April 2016

Supporting multilingual classrooms

What are the benefits of multi/plurilingualism for children from plurilingual background?

- Cooperate with friends, mutual help

- Learn another language

- Socialise, make penfriends

- Learn a new culture

- Be aware of the differences between languages

- Be aware of the structure of their own language

- Do not forget their own language

- Better chance for future success (the more languages, the better)

- Realise the national identity

- Build their self-esteem

- Feel accepted

- Develop cultural awareness

- Support in language lessons

- Motivate others

- Break prejudice

- Develop all kinds of skills next to linguistic competences

- Discover new ways of working on languages

- Understand the language structure

- Communicate

- Understand one’s mistakes in the school language

- Feel more involved in a new environment

- Possibility of paying attention to something unusual

What are the benefits of multi/plurilingualism for children from monolingual background?

- less prejudice

- open-minded

- find new friends

- learn about a new language

- language awareness

- cultural awareness

- supporting motivation

- learn about new habits in other cultures

- get more self-esteem, self-confidence

- learn hard skills

- widen the area for research; get information from various cultural backgrounds and contexts

- establish their future position in a multicultural community

- get good academic knowledge of first language

- practise new languages

- solve problems together with friends

- motivate to get to know more about others

- learn a foreign language through their mother tongue (comparing particular grammatical features)

- get information about particular countries

- become more tolerant towards other cultures

- motivate them to learn other languages