

Working Group 4: Pupil voice and the promotion of inclusion: levels of application, practice and benefits

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Membership of Working Group 4

| Name | Country |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Dr Niamh O'Brien | UK Working Group 4 lead |
| Dr Daniela Andonovska-Trojkovska | The Republic of North Macedonia |
| Prof Maritta Valimaki and | Finland |
| Dr Minna Anttila (sub) | Finland |
| Dr Roxana Patras | Romania |
| Dr Georg Spiel | Austria |
| Dr Elisabeth Stefanek (sub) | Austria |
| Dr Lamija Sceta | Bosnia Herzegovina |
| Dr Dita Nimante | Latvia |
| Dr. Katrin Hahn-Laudenberg | Germany |
| Dr Christina Hajisoteriou | Cyprus |
| Dr Hermina Gunnarsdottir | Iceland |
| Prof Hanna Ragnarsdóttir | Iceland |
| Prof. Josip Burusic | Croatia |
| Angelika Echsel | Switzerland |
| Christina Schulze | Switzerland |

Agreed terms of reference

‘Pupil voice’ refers to: ways of listening to the views of pupils and/or involving them in decision-making.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/437241/Listening_to_and_involving_children_and_young_people.pdf

‘Peer support’: can be described as involving children and young people helping each other; In a planned and structured way; With training to enable them to fulfil their role(s).

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/603107/Children_and_young_people_s_mental_health_peer_support.pdf

Following our first WG meeting (April 2019, Brussels), task one was to ascertain the policy and legislative guidelines in relation to ‘pupil voice’ and ‘peer support’ in our respective countries.

Evidence was gathered on:

- Compulsory age of students at secondary school
- How long students spend at compulsory secondary school
- Types of secondary schools
- How secondary education is run
- Local/regional/national policy documents/guidelines in relation to ‘pupil voice’
- Local/regional/national policy documents/guidelines in relation to ‘peer support’

Similarities and differences were noted and presented to the wider COST Action members meeting by Dr Niamh O’Brien on 2nd October 2019 at Dublin City University¹.

Following our second WG meeting (October 2019, Dublin), task two was to conduct a review of the published literature in relation to pupil voice in our respective countries.

Literature was gathered on:

- Pupil/student voice and bullying/social exclusion
- Pupil/student voice and migration inclusion/integration
- Pupil/student voice and identity and cultural diversity (as related to migration)
- Pupil/student voice and active involvement in decision-making

This literature is currently being written up by Dr Niamh O’Brien.

Working Group 4 will be meeting virtually to agree the objectives for the coming months (to September 2020), including plans for collecting data from children and young people themselves in schools.

¹ PowerPoint slides are available on request.