

How to Teach Collective Skills in Individualistic Societies: the Japanese Principles of Primary Education Implemented in Bulgarian Schools

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The project aims to improve the climate in Bulgarian schools by implementing some of the basic principles of educating collective skills in Japan. After three extensive researches in Osaka, Nagoya and Tsukuba Universities on the Japanese experience in teaching and nurturing skills for work in a team, the author developed a methodology to implement some of the principles, methods and techniques that are suitable for the European style of basic education. The idea was welcomed by the Bulgarian syndicate of Teachers and accepted as a strategy for improvement of the interpersonal relations between students and between students and teachers. After a series of seminars for teachers the methodology is currently implemented in three Bulgarian schools as a pilot project. This presentation is a contribution to the innovative initiatives in education.