

## **Developing Foreign Language Competence of Primary Teachers**

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The project "Developing Foreign Language Competence of Primary Teachers" implemented by the Public Service Language Centre aims to help primary teachers to develop their communicative competence in a foreign language (English, French, German). The target group of the project consists of 120 primary class teachers who are currently teaching all subjects except foreign languages and who intend (in the log run) to seek additional formal qualification which would entitle them to teach a foreign language to their primary students.

The course combines two major strands: general language and professional language. Both group work activities and independent work tasks are aimed at developing skills applied in general contexts (such as travel, hotels etc.) as well as professional contexts (such as international school projects, reading educational texts etc.)

Published and ICT-based resources will be used (including interactive whiteboard software), particularly for the general language strand. However, activities for the professional language strand will be devised by the project experts. The newly designed materials will be piloted with a group of 12 teachers.

10 experts (English, French and German specialists) from different towns cooperate in designing the syllabus and the materials for the course. The course will be taught by the same experts. Portfolio methodology will be used for (self-) assessment of progress and achievement.

At the end of the project a CD will be produced containing materials for independent language study. The CD will be issued to every primary school in Lithuania as a free resource for foreign language learning available to every primary teacher.