



The policy in primary and secondary education in Bulgaria

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How are Creativity and Innovation in Education being addressed by policy-makers?

- National strategy for ICT in school
- Programs and projects for financing extra curricula activities
- Competitions and contests for students and teachers
- Strategies for motivating teachers



National strategy for ICT in school

- Computer labs and Internet access in all schools
- ICT integration in other subjects
- ICT being taught as separate subject
- National educational portal
- In-service teachers continues education



Programs and projects giving financial support for organizing extra curricula activities

- Human Resources Development Program
- High School Students Institute of Mathematics and Informatics:
 - Research Summer School
 - High school students' conference
 - Dedicated section in the frame of the annual conference of the Union of Bulgarian Mathematicians



Competitions and contests for students and teachers

- Students
 - National Olympiads in Information Technologies, Informatics, Mathematics, Linguistics, Sciences
 - Young Talents Contest
 - Physics in My Eyes
 - ...
- Teachers
 - The School – Desired Place for Pupils
 - Development of e-Learning Materials
 - Best Teachers Awards



Motivating teachers

- Differentiated salaries taking into account the
 - Integration of ICT in teaching
 - Preparation of educational materials
 - Extra curricula work with
 - gifted students
 - students with difficulties
 - students from national ethnical minority



How effective are policies in enhancing Creativity and Innovation in Education?

- Effects
 - More students are involved in creative and innovative activities
 - More teachers are motivated to integrate ICT in their teaching and own learning
- Defects
 - Quality or Quantity?!



What are the required conditions to foster Creativity and Innovation in teaching and learning?

- Assuring both freedom and support in the process of teaching and learning
- Relevant evaluation of the results
- Harnessing the collective intelligence
- Using ICT as a means of better expressing oneself
- Learning the ICT *in a way to use them for solving difficult real problems in the future*