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