





Funded by the European Union via the Structural Reform Support Programme and implemented by the British Council in cooperation with the European Commission

**Year One** 

# Supporting School Principals as leaders in the curriculum reform in Lithuania

Year 2 Launch Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021

# Supporting school principals as leaders in the curriculum reform in Lithuania

A two-year project starting in June 2020

 We know from research evidence that curriculum reform across the world is more successful when school leaders take a leading role in its development and the development of teaching and learning in their schools

- "School leadership is second only to classroom teaching as an influence on pupil outcomes"
  - (Leithwood et al, 2008)

• "Instructional leadership is a key aspect of school leadership and critical to raising outcomes for all pupils and students" (Robinson, 2012 & OECD 2015)

### What do Instructional Leaders do?

#### Instructional leaders:

- Establish clear educational goals for their schools that are compatible with the national education system
- Take a leading role in planning, monitoring and evaluating the curriculum
- Become personally involved in evaluating teachers and teaching
- Instructional leaders concentrate on the impact that teachers and teaching and learning make on improving pupils' progress
- Instructional leadership aims to improve learning and teacher effectiveness by:
  - Finding ways to engage more students in their learning
  - Coaching teachers
  - Providing opportunities for their teachers to develop their professional skills
  - Effectively manage the curriculum and resources

### The Pilot Group

- A group of 29 participants were identified and selected to participate in the instructional leadership training during year one of the project.
- The participants in the Year One Group piloted training materials covering the key component of Instructional Leadership between June 2020 and May 2021
- The 29 participants helped to develop a "toolkit" to train other
  Lithuanian Principals during the second year of the project
- Originally designed to be face-to-face training but in the end was delivered completely on-line



### The eight modules of the Toolkit

- Rationale for developing the leadership of teaching and learning to support the introduction of Curriculum reform in Lithuania
- Leading and managing change to implement the reforms
- Strategic Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
- Coaching and Mentoring
- Working in Partnership with stakeholders
- Leading teaching and learning: curriculum
- Leading teaching and learning: pedagogy
- Digital Literacy and blended learning









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Moving on....

Year two of project

# The Year One Participants work with their peers in Year two of the project

- Having undertaken training in the eight modules, the Year One Participants have developed an eight part "toolkit' to help share their learning with other educational leaders in Lithuania
- Working with British Council trainers and colleagues from the Ministry and the National Agency the 29 participant have written training materials to test during Year 2 of the project.
- About 290 educational professionals in Lithuania have agreed to participate in year two of the project.
- You will test and develop the training materials during the coming 10 months and contribute to system leadership in Lithuania.
- Everyone here has the opportunity to play a part in revolutionizing teaching and learning in schools across the country



### **Leading teaching and learning**

- Understanding the role of leadership in improving teaching and learning
- Introducing the new competency-based curriculum
- The impact of high-quality teaching and learning on pupil outcomes
- What makes great teaching and learning and how to improve it
- Tools to monitor and evaluate teaching and learning
- Coaching others to lead effective teaching and learning

### The year two programme

- Over the coming months you will undertake three of the eight modules in the toolkit.
- In November and December all 290 trainees will be coaching in the first of the eight modules:
- "Rational for developing the leadership of teaching and learning to support the introduction of the Lithuanian curriculum reform"



## What will we be expected to do between November and December?

- The new participants will be divided into groups of 30 and will be coached by three of the Year one participants
- There will be an on-line training day to introduce the topic. This will comprise two 2-hour on-line training sessions using the Zoom platform
- This will be followed up by a further 2-hour training session on Zoom
- A school-based project will be set and undertaken by all trainees (expectation of half a day's work to be undertaken on this project)
- A few weeks later there will be a follow up 2-hour training session to conclude the first module

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# What will we be expected to do between January and February 2022?

- The groups of 30 and will be coached by three of the Year one participants in one of the remaining 7 modules
- The same pattern as before will be followed:
- There will be an on-line training day to introduce the topic. This will comprise two 2-hour on-line training sessions using the Zoom platform
- This will be followed up by a further 2-hour training session on Zoom
- A school-based project will be set and undertaken by all trainees (expectation of half a day's work to be undertaken on this project)
- A few weeks later there will be a follow up 2-hour training session to conclude the first module

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## What will we be expected to do between March and April 2022?



- A third of the 7 modules will be undertaken.
- By the end of April everyone will have undertaken and piloted three of the eight modules and you will have helped prepare other teachers and school leaders to implement the curriculum reforms even better that they would have thought they could do.
- You will have developed your own professional learning
- You will have made a huge contribution to the education system leadership of Lithuania

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