

If catholic schools are to respond to each pupil's individual learning needs, what can be done as regards curricula, school organization and the roles of teachers?

Nowadays it is often spoken about society's adaptation to individuals. Everybody wants to be heard and taken into consideration at their job, in private and public life and also in school.

Catholic schools should not have big problems with responding to their pupil's individual needs, not only with learning but also on other fields. In my opinion our school sets a good example of noticing and responding to our wishes. There are many incidents to support my belief such as extra lessons for students who have difficulties with learning or even special needs, encouraging the help among students themselves, possibility of consultations with teachers at least once per week etc.

It is hard to include needs of every pupil into curriculum as this is a general plan for the whole year, but it can be foreseen if extra lessons are required. The main step concerning school organization is having a counsellor who is qualified to help and advise. If it was not for the teachers, schools would not exist. Teachers' job is not only to give lessons but also to help with preparing their pupils for life. Of course the latter is not their primary task but they can contribute to it a lot with answering students' questions, listening to their opinion and considering their individuality.

A lot of effort is already put into responding to individual needs of students, but there is always more that can be done.

Irena Jamnik
Zavod sv. Stanislava (St. Stanislav's Institution)
Škofijska klasična gimnazija
Stula 23
1210 Ljubljana
Slovenia