

## **How can Catholic schools equip young people with competences and motivation for lifelong learning?**

Schools are very important part of our life. We spend a lot of time in them. They affect our behaviour, lifestyle and way of thinking enormously. People develop themselves mostly in teenage time when we attend school. That is why we have to devote attention to schools and their system. I attend the Diocesan Classical Gymnasium in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and I am very satisfied with it. It has all the values we need for high quality life.

I think schools should stimulate looking for talents and competences as much as possible. That should be their first priority because people are the most effective in activities in which they can use their gifts. So, these gifts should also be trained in order to be even more beneficial for us and the humanity. In my opinion working on primary talents is more important than gaining new talents. For example, someone who is good with numbers should study numeral subjects twice as much as languages to make the best progress. Luckily, curricula in our school is arranged in this way. I can express great satisfaction about stimulating and developing competences at our school.

Of course also motivation is important thing regarding gaining knowledge. It results in faster and better learning. For greater motivation I would show students examples of successful people, for example some politicians who have improved life and society, scientists who invented medicines, useful gadgets and alternative resources of energy, etc. I am sure that when people see success of somebody they become aware of usefulness of their own talents. I think that our school excels in highly motivated students.

Otherwise I think that the world is on its good way. We live in quite a peaceful period of time. And people's awarness of taking care of environment is improving steadily. Besides this, there is always more research about noxious factors related to our health. I have an optimistic view of the future and am looking forward to contribute my part to humanity.

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