30 September 2022

Report on the work of the
Primary and Preschool Digital Foreign Language Education Research Team
between 1 September 2021 and 15 June 2022

The aims of the research team are the following:

- a) to investigate primary-school teachers’ methodological competence and practice applied before, during and after the pandemic;
- b) to examine the ways in which the teaching methods and techniques applied in offline teaching could be adapted for online teaching;
- c) to identify the competencies the teachers developed during the pandemic period, which they could in turn harness in offline teaching.

The research project consists of four consecutive stages: exploration through empirical investigation → preparation of recommendations for digital teaching → piloting and implementation → evaluation and dissemination.

In the first year of the project, whilst broadening our knowledge of relevant literature, we focussed on conducting empirical research, including a questionnaire survey and follow-up interviews. The questionnaire was filled in by more than 700 Hungarian primary foreign language teachers. While analysing the questionnaire data, we plan to conduct interviews with a sample of volunteering teachers. This will be followed by an online in-service workshop this autumn, intended to be the first step of the development stage of the project.

As initial products of the research project, three papers are being written under the following working titles:

- a) The influence of emergency remote teaching during the pandemic on face-to-face language teaching
- b) Evaluating the effects of the emergency remote teaching during the pandemic on German minority primary teachers
- c) Evaluating the effects of the emergency remote teaching through teachers’ metaphors.

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