

## **ABSTRACT**

The thesis explores the opportunities offered by art education in supporting the social relations amongst pupils with a different mother tongue. It investigates the potential of artistic practices of art education in promoting understanding among pupils; specifically in the integration of Ukrainian pupils who have come to class without prior knowledge of the Czech language. It shows the possibilities and limits of their visual communication with the environment. Pupils with a different mother tongue have still been a marginalized group in the Czech school environment. The thesis is looking for ways to improve this situation, in accordance with the chosen research methodology of a case study with elements of action research.

In the theoretical part of the thesis, the author focuses on the legislative framework, which provides a context for the social inclusion of pupils with a different mother tongue. It emphasizes cultural competence, identity, and the newly emerging concept of well-being; examines the issue of social inclusion in the school environment and the broader context of inclusive education.

The practical part of the thesis answers specific research questions regarding the role of creative activities in the integration of Ukrainian female pupils. The author characterizes the female pupils with whom she conducted the research, describes the selection of topics for teaching situations, creates a pedagogical diary and depicts how she conducted reflective dialogues with the pupils. Ten research situations were designed to facilitate interactive dialogue and to help the female pupils with a different mother tongue to integrate into the classroom community.

The research results reveal that art education effectively supports communication, empathy, language learning and social integration, whilst the thesis contributes to the understanding of the role of art education in the process of social integration of pupils with a different mother tongue.

## **KEYWORDS**

pupil with a different mother tongue, inclusion, visual expression, intercultural communication, social cohesion, well-being, cultural identity, cultural competence