

CONCLUSIONS OF INTERVIEWS

Partner: Mehmet Sinan Dereli Ortaokulu (İzmit, Turkey)

All the interviews were carried out at Mehmet Sinan Dereli Ortaokulu (İzmit) during the month of March 2021. All of them are detailed in the appendix.

1. TEACHERS' INTERVIEWS

Two teachers were interviewed, one from Primary, and one from Secondary school.

- They believe that if dyscalculia is determined at an early age, the individual learning programme can be useful and they can learn basic mathematical subjects at least. However, the individual learning programme for the students whose dyscalculia is diagnosed late, cannot be useful to learn.
- The teachers explained that they often make or buy materials that can be useful for the students who have math learning difficulties in their classes. They generally use concrete objects and explain the subject with games.
- The teachers pointed that the students who have math learning disabilities are generally uninterested during lessons because they have concentration difficulties. Whenever the teachers don't work with them individually, they are always interested in other things.
- The teachers also indicated that these students must get help from specialists. When they have training from a specialist, this will be a guide for parents and also for teachers at school.

2. FAMILIES' INTERVIEWS

Two families were interviewed, both of them have children at secondary school.

- The families considered that the prejudice is the biggest problem. If the students love maths, they have self confidence and they can succeed. Teachers can do funny activities, play games in maths class. And parents can also do funny maths activities at home.
- The parents pointed that they are in cooperation with school to solve their children's math learning difficulty.
- Parents suggested that teachers can use drama activities and use real life examples at lessons. They also suggested that parents can let their children use

money while shopping, organise studying time, measure things while cooking ...etc out of school and maths class.

- They also claimed that if a student has maths anxiety, he/she is afraid of maths and this affects his/her success.

3. STUDENTS' INTERVIEWS

Two students were interviewed, both of them are at secondary school.

- Students explained that there are students who have maths learning difficulties in their classes. They do not understand the subject. Sometimes they feel shy and cannot express themselves well. Sometimes they lose their attention.
- Students claimed that these classmates don't listen to lesson carefully. They pay attention to other things. Some of them ask teacher to explain again. Although some of them take notes, listen to teacher, do their homework, they still fail.
- Students suggested that if there is something that causes lack of concentration in the classroom, teacher must take it out. For the shy students in the classroom, teacher can do some activities to improve their self confidence.