

FOCUS GROUP 2: 13-15 November 2017

Participants:

- **Blanquerna team: Cristina Corcoll, Carme Flores, Àngels Geis**
- **Settings team: Sílvia Turmo and Natàlia Turmo (Petita Escola); M.Àngels Domènech, Mireia Miralpeix, M. José Riella (EBM Mas Balmanya)**

Summary of key ideas

Key ideas discussed in focus group 3:

- Work with IOs:
 - Petita Escola:
 - IO6, Languages: a lot of work has been done connecting with this IO
 - IO5, Meal Times: a lot of work has been done connecting with this IO
 - IO4, Toddlers' voice and expressions: they have started work on this IO and want to delve into it as it means a school change
 - IO3, Wellbeing: IO seen as a general framework
 - Up to now, the whole team of teachers worked on all IOs (videorecording and analysing images). As of this school year, as half the team is new, they are revising materials and training new practitioners. Each practitioner is asked to focus on one IO:
 - EBM Mas Balmanya:
 - they have worked on all IOs to a different degree
 - IO6, Languages: only started
 - IO3, Wellbeing: seen as the umbrella IO that connects others; a lot of work has been done here.
 - Practitioners read and reflect upon the materials individually. They discuss together, implement, reflect individually and together again. Prior to this, self-assessment and identification of needs.
- Impact of IOs and difficulties
 - Petita Escola:
 - TOWE has impacted greatly on setting as it has become a school project and influences everything. Impact at the individual (self-assessment) and school levels (spaces, resources, etc.)
 - Difficulties: as a lot of changes in team of practitioners, difficulty in sharing TOWE materials and training; challenge to keep changes done
 - Proposals for improvement: more visual materials
 - Mas Balmanya:
 - TOWE has impacted greatly on setting as it has become a school project and influences everything. They work through a methodology based on reflection and spend time and energy on discussing practice. The team is proud of and satisfied with their work.

- Difficulties: TOWE entails a lot of work. They have decided to reorganise themselves and finish up one project before starting a new one. They have also learnt to experience criticism and observation as a professional issue, rather than a personal one.
 - Proposals for improvement: regarding IO6, include more details on how to welcome languages; regarding IO3, it seems too broad, difficult to know where to start.
- TOWE at present:
 - Petita Escola: revise materials again to train new teachers. Regarding IO5, they are focusing on the adult's attitude; regarding IO4, they are revising attitudes and spaces; regarding IO6, new practitioners are being trained. As practitioners have left the school to work somewhere else, they are sharing TOWE with others and disseminating.
 - Mas Balmanya: work on the adult's attitude, especially respecting toddlers' choice of play and choice of space.
- TOWE in the future:
 - Petita Escola: acknowledgement that diversity at school entails individual diversity. TOWE inspires to understand that what is good for one child should be good for all. Focus will be placed directly on adults' attitudes. Proposals for improvement: year 2016-2017 was very intense for schools (a lot of travelling, a lot of work).
 - Mas Balmanya: Focus will be placed directly on adults' attitudes as their attitude influences toddlers' attitudes. Acknowledgement that diversity at school entails individual diversity and that working towards toddlers' needs should be good for everyone. Proposals for improvement: sharing more reflections moments among all practitioners, repeating the job shadowing activity.