

Practice	Communication Laboratory Of Haapsalu Schools
Source/Link	https://sites.google.com/hkhk.edu.ee/hakola
Country/region/city	Estonia, Haapsalu
Time frame	October 2018 - May 2021
Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> x VET x School education x Higher education
Target group	<p>Teachers and students of Haapsalu schools.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Läänemaa Gymnasium 2. Vocational Education Centre of Haapsalu 3. Haapsalu Basic School 4. Uuemõisa Primary School
Short description	<p>A communication laboratory with innovative equipment was created at the Haapsalu Vocational Education Center, which would allow the teaching of Estonian language and literature, foreign languages, art subjects, technology and informatics lessons and integrate them with each other or with other subjects for study days. The communication laboratory was created in cooperation with four schools in Haapsalu.</p> <p>The communication laboratory has 2 directions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) development of verbal communication by integrating Estonian language and literature, foreign languages and informatics. 2) development of visual communication by integrating art subjects, technology and informatics. <p>The communication laboratory helps to develop students' various competencies, such as communication competence, digital competence, entrepreneurial competence, and the development of technological literacy competence.</p> <p>The overall goal of the project is to promote students' communication skills through the use of innovative digital technologies.</p>
Methodologies and animation techniques used	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A modern communication laboratory with the necessary equipment and software has been established in Haapsalu Vocational Education Center. 2. Training teachers to use technology to enrich teaching and create teaching materials.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Training of teachers' communication competencies and cooperation competencies. 4. Teachers who come to teach in a communication laboratory create learning materials in advance (lessons, videos, screen recordings, e-learning objects, integrated tasks prepared for lessons and project learning, etc.) to conduct the lessons. 5. Innovative learning materials will be created that are integrated into language, art, IT and technology and professional studies. 6. Teaching materials completed by teachers (under the guidance of educational technologists) are uploaded to a common teaching material bank. After testing the teaching materials in the lessons, the more successful teaching materials will be linked to the e-School Bag and will be made available to teachers in other schools in this way.
<p>Digital solutions used</p>	<p>Different solutions are used in teaching and for developing digital competences. Teachers were trained to use the equipment and applications:</p> <p>Applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adobe Photoshop image editing software. ● Adobe Illustrator design software ● Filmora software - is a video creation and editing application. ● Mythware classroom - is management software that allows the teacher to effectively manage and control the class, allows real-time monitoring of students' activities, keeping focus and getting optimal results from students. <p>Equipment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3D pen - is a pen that extrudes heated or warm plastic from the pen's nozzle. With a 3D pen allows drawing a raised graphic on a piece of paper or any flat surface. But what makes a 3D pen truly unique is its ability to "draw" in mid-air, allowing you to instantly form 3D structures right in front of you, which you can pick up and hold in your hand. ● Promethean Board - interactive whiteboard that allows to project an image from a laptop or a computer, as well as interact with the board through touch or specialised pens. ● Graphics board. ● Digital Camera Nikon D5600. ● Video camera Panasonic. ● Language class video and audio equipment. ● Dobot robot hand. ● Apple computers.
<p>Contents/issues on which methodologies and animation techniques are applied</p>	<p>The project sets out the reasons why it is necessary to set up a communication laboratory for students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are young people in schools who have communication difficulties and do not have the necessary communication skills. This is due to the young person's low self-esteem, lack of vocabulary and lack of expression skills, or the reason that the current Z-generation

	<p>children are different, communicating with each other very briefly through emails and messages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Today, cooperation and teamwork skills, foreign language skills are emphasised in working life, and the lack of communication skills and courage becomes an obstacle for a young person to find and stay in a professional job. • Today, much of the communication has moved into the visual world. In an age of information overload, messages have grown into images and symbols, logos and brands that communicate around the world without language barriers. This requires young people to be able to understand them, to orient themselves in a maze of visual messages, so visual communication skills are essential today. • It is possible to train communication skills, because there are subjects in the curricula of basic schools, upper secondary schools and vocational schools through which it is possible to develop young people's communication skills and improve their self-expression skills in both verbal and visual forms. The introduction of modern methods of communication provides an opportunity to develop almost all interdisciplinary competencies, which are largely related to communication at different levels, but the content is created through different subjects and their integration. • The learning environment created brings together technological solutions that are not yet in use in many schools on a daily basis (due to their cost or ignorance) and which, with their specificities (e.g. play-based learning, project work, creative exercises, etc.), add a new dimension to learning.
Technical equipment	<p>Technology in the communication laboratory.</p> <p>Zone 1 (art):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 iMac computers + teacher computer, iMac guides. • Colour laser printer • Sound recording device • Projector (touch screen) • 12 A3 graphics boards • Robotic hand • 3D pencils (15 pcs) • Plotter • Document camera • Special software from Adobe + manuals <p>Zone 2 (communication):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Node chairs with wheels • 15 Windows computers + mice and mouse pads + teacher computer • Computers are located in the charging cabinet, there are also Promethean and speaker remotes and mice • Promethean smart board + pens (4 pcs), guide + ActiveInspire licence for Promethean special software. • Speakers • Special software • Filmora (video editing)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Special software from Adobe computers 1 - 5 <p>Both zones can be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SLR camera Nikon + tripod, guide ● Video camera Panasonic + tripod, guide ● 15 pairs of headphones ● Laminator A3 and A4 <p>Additional options:</p> <p>- Photo studio can be used with advance notice.</p>
<p>Experiences, findings, results, lessons learnt (Project internal view)</p>	<p>The final results and feedback of the project have not been presented on the project website.</p>
<p>Strengthen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enhancing the digital competences of students and teachers. ● Students' interest in studying literature, language, art and technology is growing. ● Students' IT and technology knowledge and skills are developed through integrated teaching. ● Students gain more courage to speak and communicate, and students' communication skills increase. ● Learning becomes more practical and more attractive to students. ● Enriches the vocational training of vocational school students and makes them more in line with students' expectations and real life; ● Better cooperation between the vocational school and the general education schools of the city of Haapsalu. ● Popularises vocational training among basic school students. ● Teachers create good teaching materials and share them with other teachers.
<p>Weaknesses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teachers do not use the communication laboratory as intended. ● The communication laboratory is located in the premises of Haapsalu Vocational Education Center. This means that other schools have to go there. ● Equipment and applications are expensive and require constant maintenance. ● Different schools use a communication lab, so teachers must constantly monitor that the equipment is being used correctly and is not being damaged. ● It is too difficult for teachers to use devices and applications. ● The timetable between the schools must be in line with each other.
<p>Other relevant information</p>	<p>Project: Sharing of study materials CLASS + (Õppevara ühiskasutus KLASS+)</p> <p>The aim of the project is to guide and encourage educational institutions to implement the curriculum in a new way, thereby supporting educational institutions in implementing a learning approach that develops individual and social development, creativity, entrepreneurship and digital competences through the sharing of modern and innovative learning resources (Class +).</p>

	<p>The applicant must involve at least two educational institutions as a partner or co-operation partner.</p> <p>Many Estonian schools have received funding for this project, which has upgraded their equipment and made their teaching more innovative. https://www.hm.ee/sites/default/files/klass_ii_toetuse_saajad.pdf</p>
Comments	<p>During the project, teachers were taught competencies other than the use of equipment. This project, for example, improved teachers' teamwork and communication competencies.</p> <p>The study materials created during the project are freely available to all teachers and are added to the Estonian E-school bag. When creating teaching materials, the teacher is assisted by an educational technologist who assists in the use of equipment and applications.</p> <p>I can see that it is similar to our project, where teachers are supported in creating new teaching materials.</p>
A contribution by	VIKK