Inclusion and children with medical needs
The Bednet case
How it started ...

- more than 2000 children from 6 to 18 years
- recovering from illness, accidents, surgery
- sometimes longer than a month at home or at the hospital
A long term ill child is hit twice as hard ...

- the illness or the accident itself
  - physical or psychological problems
  - often severe therapies or long recovering period

- away from his/her familiar environment for a long time
  - misses a lot of lessons at school
  - sometimes cannot finish the school year
  - falls out of the social network of his/her class
Bednet’s goal

- Education: diminish knowledge gap
- Inclusion: support social contacts
Diminishing the knowledge gap

- majority of children passes to the next grade
- combination with scholing at home / volunteers
- strongly depending on illness development
  - sometimes expectations are too high
Supporting social contact

- often named as one of the strongest points
- “being part of it” is motivating
- returning to the classroom is easier
  - disruption remained limited
  - gradual re-integration
- not all ill children are open for this
The Bednet application

- at home
  - computer
  - camera
  - printer/scanner
  - headset

- in the classroom
  - computer
  - webcam
  - printer/scanner
  - camera
  - speakers
  - microphone
The Bednet application

- **Monitor**: window with live class webcam stream
- **Blackboard**: window with snapshots, taken from the classroom’s blackboard
- **Bookshelf**: repository of handouts, handbooks and reference materials
- **Pupil’s desk**: access to personal materials (e.g. agenda, exercises, assignments)
- **Action and navigation buttons**
Standard procedure of a project

Regional support to establish and maintain the contact and support links with all actors within each Bednet “project”

1. Introduction
2. Internet connection
3. Installation
4. Lessons via Bednet
5. Evaluation
Bednet project: a multiple engagement

**BEDNET PROJECT**
- the ill student
- the school
- Bednet
- the family

**Integrated education-coaching**

**Volunteers**

**Hospital school**

**Scholing at home**

**Student councilor**

**Education for an ill student**
Bednet’s regional staff

- Supervising the projects
  - checks whether everyone involved approves the project
  - takes care of a smooth starting up of the project
  - supervises the running of the project
  - evaluates

- Networking in his/her own region
  - advertising and communicating
  - starting cooperation
Bednet’s regional staff

- Bednet-employee as external catalyst and expert

- Bednet-employee with helicopter view
  - direct contact with all parties involved
  - independent
Bednet: facts and figures...

- **Number of children**
  - School year 2007-2008: 39 children
  - School year 2008-2009: 75 children
  - School year 2009–2010: 160 children

- **All education networks**
  - Conventional and special primary and secondary schools
  - General secondary education (ASO) as well as technical and vocational education
  - Spread out over 5 Flemish provinces and Brussels

- **Pathology**
  - Wide variation, but almost 50% are cancer patients
  - Accidents and surgery: from 9% to 15%

- **Cooperation with volunteers, schooling at home and hospital schools**
Bednet: facts and figures...

- Added value of the Bednet project

1. Each Bednet project is custom tailored
2. Bednet takes into account the needs and expectations of the other “users”
3. The system is easily accessible and user-friendly
4. free of charge
5. The school remains totally responsible and in control
6. Bednet collaborates intensely with all other actors
7. Bednet develops expertise, consolidates it through knowledge management and shares it to all relevant actors.
Bednet’s future ...

- During the past years hard work was done to develop
  - A simple and user friendly system
  - A regional service
  - Cooperation with partners

- Bednet is a pioneer in Europe
  - Enlargement of scale is the challenge
  - Policy and businessplan
  - Researching for fellow-campaigners abroad
Bednet’s future ...

- as of school year 2010-2011
  - increase to 500 children simultaneously
  - work on new subsidiary and sponsoring dossiers
  - Policy and business plan
  - address companies, service clubs, other organisations
The Bednet system promotes social inclusion by

- combatting school retardation
- maintaining/re-establishing social contacts between the ill child and its classmates
- social binding between the ill child and the group of its mainstream class
- classmates take the responsibility for establishing and monitoring the connection of the ill child with the school during class time
- videoconferencing facilities between the ill child and classmates during the breaks and eventually after school time
Our partners

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For further infomation ...

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