

Erika Rauseo Balmer

Schulische Heilpädagogin HfH

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My offer.

Reading, writing, arithmetic: Basic skills that are needed for active and successful participation in society – in private life as well as at work.

Those who become proficient at an early age usually find it easier later on. A good start is therefore paramount. But those who struggle – because they are over- or underchallenged – need more than the public school can offer in regular classes.

They need teaching that supports their learning process in a targeted and consistent way, with learning requirements and opportunities that are appropriate and sufficiently adapted to their prerequisites and potential.

Recognising progress in this process and drawing conclusions for further action is one of the central tasks of a teacher and an important benchmark in measuring the quality of the teaching. As a qualified special needs/support teacher with over ten years of experience working in the public school system in Zurich I also offer private tuition in my own teaching location, situated in a quiet and easily accessible part of the old town of Zurich.

I create an individual learning programme for each student based on a learning assessment. The aim is to teach the material regularly and according to a plan – until it is fully grasped by the pupil.

My hourly rate is based on that of the City and Canton of Zurich. I will be happy to make you a concrete offer after a free initial consultation.

I look forward to your enquiry.

My education.

2009: Bachelor of Arts in Social Work (major in Social Pedagogy) at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland (FHNW)

2015: Master of Arts in Special Needs Education at the University of Teacher Education in Special Needs (Interkantonale Hochschule für Heilpädagogik, HfH)

My practical experience.

Ten years as an educator in the clinic for children and adolescents of the Swiss Epilepsy Foundation in Zurich.

Twelve years as a special needs teacher (integrative support and support for the gifted) at the Kappeli school in the Letzi school district, City of Zurich.



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My way of working.

Pupils learn when the lessons are tailored to their needs and abilities. However, the spectrum of these needs and abilities is broad and not everything can be accommodated in regular class lessons.

This is where I come in as a special needs/support teacher: I support pupils with specific educational needs in their learning process. When planning and designing my lessons, I am guided by what is particularly helpful according to the current state of knowledge:

- appropriate initial diagnosis to determine the (pre-)knowledge level:
- directly addressing identified deficits or gaps and compensating for them by teaching the material in small steps, building on what is already there;
- allowing sufficient time for guided and independent practice, repetition and consolidation;

- continuously monitoring the learning process with continuous diagnostics and using the findings for planning and designing further lessons:
- giving the pupil regular corrective and supportive feedback on behaviour, progress and results.

In my work I use various methods which trigger and facilitate the learning processes. I focus on direct instruction with a strong steering component for pupils with learning difficulties. Research has shown that they benefit more from this approach than from methods that require them to take more responsibility. The latter, on the other hand, is what I focus on with pupils who have special educational needs due to a pronounced talent.

And because I know that motivational and emotional aspects have an enormous impact on the learning process, I ensure a friendly teaching atmosphere that – despite all the necessary structure and discipline – also leaves room for humour and positive emotions.

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