**DESCRIPTION OF THE FIELD OF THE HABILITATION AND INAUGURATION PROCEDURE**

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| **Name of the field of habilitation and inauguration proceeding** | preschool and elementary education |
| **Name of the study field(s), to which the field of habilitation and inauguration proceeding is assigned** | teaching and educational sciences |
| **Name of the study programmes (3rd degree of study), to which the field of habilitation and inauguration proceeding is assigned** | preschool and elementary education |
| **Name of the study programmes (2nd degree of study), to which the field of habilitation and inauguration proceeding is assigned** | primary education teaching, primary education teaching and the education of the psychosocially impaired, preschool education |

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| **The content of the field of the habilitation and the inauguration proceedings** |
| **Name of the field of habilitation and inauguration proceedings**: preschool and elementary education  The content of the HIP is in line with the focus of the field of study Teaching and Educational Sciences and is aimed at and defined in the way to correspond with the key themes of the core knowledge of the field of study Teaching and Educational Sciences. Candidates present the results of their research and its practical implications in solving: 1. issues in preschool and elementary education related to philosophical, cognitivist, and sociological interpretations of educational phenomena, 2. more specific issues related to the research of didactic aspects within the distinct topics of preschool and primary education. The main content elements of the HIP field are: philosophical foundations of preschool and elementary education in relation to school reforms and trends in the Slovak Republic, bio-psycho-social aspects of preschool and primary education, educational trends in the digital age, didactics of selected content areas in preschool, leisure-time, and primary education: Slovak language and literature, mathematics, music education, art education, physical and sports education, fundaments of civics and natural science, homeland studies, natural science, ICT, and work education. |

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| **Definition of the field of the habilitation and inauguration procedure** |
| The field of habilitation and inauguration proceeding of preschool and elementary education is assigned to the field Teaching and Educational sciences. The HIP field of preschool and elementary education focuses on basic and applied research on educational aspects of preschool and primary education. It builds on the tertiary level study programme in preschool and elementary education in the field of teaching and educational sciences. The HIP field reflects current trends in pedagogical research and its interdisciplinary contexts. Within the framework of habilitation and inauguration proceedings, candidates present the results of their expertise in a wide range of pedagogical problems of preprimary and primary education. At the Faculty of Education of the University of Presov, the rights for habilitation and inauguration proceeding have been granted since 2002. In order to increase the quality of both the processes and the outcomes of the HIP, a two-level procedure for the assessment of the submitted materials from the applicants has been created and implemented and verified in practice: Level 1 is represented by the assessment carried out by a three-member internal committee of the Faculty of Education, University of Presov, reviewing the fulfilment of the minimum criteria for the habilitation and inauguration proceeding; Level 2 is represented by the evaluation of the habilitation committee and the inauguration committee. |

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| **The persons responsible for the development and quality assurance of the field of habilitation and inauguration proceedings** |
| [prof. PhDr. Iveta Kovalčíková, PhD.](https://www.unipo.sk/public/media/4214/VUPCH_PF_Kovalcikova.pdf) – works in the field of HIK preschool and elementary education, field of study: teaching and educational sciences  [prof. Ing. Jana Burgerová, PhD.](https://www.unipo.sk/public/media/4215/VUPCH_PF_Burgerova_1.pdf) – works in the field of HIK preschool and elementary education, field of study: teaching and educational sciences  [prof. PaedDr. Vladimír Klein, PhD.](https://www.unipo.sk/public/media/4213/VUPCH_PF_Klein.pdf) – works in the field of HIK preschool and elementary education, field of study: teaching and educational sciences  [prof. PaedDr. Jozef Liba, PhD.](https://www.unipo.sk/public/media/4215/VUPCH_PF_Liba.pdf) – works in the field of HIK preschool and elementary education, field of study: teaching and educational sciences  [prof. PaedDr. Ľudmila Liptáková, CSc.](https://www.unipo.sk/public/media/4211/VUPCH_PF_Liptakova.pdf) – works in the field of HIK preschool and elementary education, field of study: teaching and educational sciences |