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## Attitudes of Parents Toward Learning Foreign Languages – a Slovene Case Study

### Abstract

The article deals with different attitudes parents have toward learning foreign languages in primary school. The main goal of the research was to determine the attitudes of parents towards learning foreign languages and whether there is a difference in their opinions depending on their level of education. The research was conducted on a group of parents of ninth-grade pupils attending Slovene primary schools (N = 200). Based on the results of our study, we found that the attitudes of parents towards learning foreign languages are fairly positive. A detailed analysis of the results, however, shows that there are differences in the attitudes of parents depending on the level of their education. Higher educated parents are more inclined to support learning foreign languages than parents with a lower level of education.

**Keywords:** *foreign language, parents' attitudes, primary school, parents' education*

### Introduction

Language policy in the European Union is based on the principle of multilingualism with modern European guidelines that try to ensure a multilingual population (e.g. *Guide for the Development of Language Education Policies in Europe: From Linguistic Diversity to Plurilingual Education*). In addition to their mother tongue, every European should master two foreign languages. This knowledge of foreign languages has become a necessity, value and advantage because of the