

Concept

The Q^{HPS} procedure is based on the idea of setting-specific health related programmes. It explicitly examines whether health-related programmes in schools not only consider health, but take into account specific school features as well. This significantly distinguishes the Q^{HPS} instrument compared to prevailing generic quality instruments.

The Q^{HPS} procedure solely examines programmes in schools addressing health-related issues. Programmes are defined and distinguished from projects by the following features:

- its concept has already been developed and field-tested,
- it is permanently available,
- it can be replicated with similar results regardless of executer and location,
- it is defined by a certain duration.

The benefit of the Q^{HPS} procedure can be summarized as follows:

- it allows a systematic assessment of health-related programmes in schools (by using standardized quality dimensions and features)
- it enhances transparency regarding the quality of such programmes, which in turn strengthens the capacities of stakeholders to act in the field of school health promotion and prevention (e.g. health insurers)
- it triggers continuous quality development in the field,
- it provides a knowledge base to support decision-makers in the field of school health promotion, such as schools, health insurers, welfare associations, educational unions, scientific organizations, and ministerial authorities.

The Q^{HPS} procedure can be used for self-evaluation or external evaluation. Programme developers and schools are the potential users when it comes to self-evaluation; professionally competent bodies at the intersection of health and education (e.g., personnel from health insurers, welfare organizations, educational unions, scientific organizations) are among the potential users in terms of external evaluation.