



## PERSONAL INFORMATION

**Veerle Vervaeet**

 Raas van Gaverestraat 67 a  
9000 GHENT  
BELGIUM

 +32 (0)9 232 47 35



 [veerle.vervaeet@vbjk.be](mailto:veerle.vervaeet@vbjk.be)



Sex Female | Date of birth 04/06/1964 | Nationality Belgian

## POSITION / FUNCTION

---

**Project collaborator**

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

1992 - present

**Project Coordinator**

Coordination and management of action research projects on putting social inclusion into the childcare practice. Accessibility, respect for diversity, Inclusion for children with special needs, parents participation are the key words in this context.

2003-today

**Main activities and responsibilities**
**Inclusion of children with special needs: action research project and the development of a manual to support reflection in teams on qualitative inclusive childcare**

The process and results of this project led to the development of the manual: 'Inclusion of children with special needs' (2007). This brochure to support reflection in teams on qualitative inclusive childcare was translated in 2010 into French and distributed in all childcare centers in the French Community of Belgium and the brochure was also distributed in France.

December 2013

**Kind en Gezin (Child and Family)**

The governmental organization of ECEC in Flanders selected sixteen organizations that will be responsible in the future to share their expertise and support all childcare initiatives in their inclusive work with children with special needs. VBJK leads this learning network of Centers for Inclusive Childcare.

2014-2017

**Enhancing Quality through Participation**

EQUAP and Erasmus+ project on parent involvement in ECEC in the seven partner countries, including research on different policies and indicators as well as job shadowing activities among ECEC practitioners.

2015-2016

**Project Lerend netwerk proeftuinen inburgering laaggeletterde moeders**

The project is a collaboration between Vlaams Agentschap Integratie en Inburgering, vzw Integratie en Inburgering Antwerpen, Integratie- en inburgering Gent (IN-Gent) Agentschap voor Inburgering en Integratie, Kind en Gezin and Centrum Basiseducatie. In the project eight pilots are set up around Flanders in order to build competence and to develop a contextual and organizational framework 'Integration at the level of low literate women with young children'. The role of VBJK in this project is organizing, preparing and coaching an educational network (with the participation of eight pilots), monitoring and supporting the evaluation of the pilots and developing the final script in collaboration with the pilots.

2014-2016

**Learning network pedagogical and linguistic organisations in childcare centres**

2013-2014

**Childcare and parents: partners in education**

Guidance and facilitation for ECEC services in Brussels to work at their parent policy, commissioned by the Flemish Community Commission

2012-2013

**Accessibility in Meeting places for Children and Parents, action research project, VBJK and University of Ghent**

Meeting places for Children and Parents are places where parents and young children can meet in a stimulating environment for the children and parents can find informal social support. Meeting places are often described as facilitators of encounters in promoting social cohesion. They want to welcome all families and children aged between 0 and five years old. They do not target 'at risk' groups. In de social mix they want to reach, they have a lot of attention to involve also vulnerable families.

The action research project focused on three questions:

- Who finds access to this meeting places?
- Which factors in the organization facilitate or complicate the access to this places?
- What is the meaning making of parents about those meeting places?

Report: Ontmoetingsplaatsen voor kinderen en ouders, een kans voor iedereen.

Final report of the action research of the Flemish Network Meeting places for Children and Parents in collaboration with VBJK and the Department Social Work (UGent), 2013.

2012-2014

**Huizen van het Kind - Houses of the Child**

The Flemish Ministry for Welfare, Public Health and Family is developing a new decree on preventive family support. One of the main key points in this future decree is the

- development of integrated family centers (called "Huizen van het Kind" – Houses of the Child). These future family centers will integrate the multiplicity of the existing local preventive family services. VBJK supports the pilot projects for Brussels.
- 2012-2014 **Improvement of Preschool Education in Serbia (Impres, Belgrade)**  
Development and implementation of the training program to enhance accessibility for preschool staff in targeted communities on the various special needs and programmes for children from vulnerable groups and children with special needs.
- 2010-2012 **Development of a new bachelor initial training for Mentors in institutions for ECEC**  
University College Artevelde  
Creation of the curriculum and lector once the training started in 2011.  
Artevelde University College, Ghent
- 2007-2010 **Social inclusion in childcare provisions in Brussels (action research)**  
Action research project in Brussels under the authority of the Commission of the Flemish Community to increase the accessibility in early childhood care and education for vulnerable groups. This project ran for about 10 years and VBJK provided professional support for over 80 childcare centres in learning communities as well as training on diversity and social policy. The process and results were presented at the **EECERA** conference 2009 in Strasbourg: From Pilot to Policy: Social Inclusion in Childcare Provisions in Brussels and In Orebro Sweden 2010 for Eurochild.
- 2002-2006 **Childcare for newcomers in Brussels (action research)**  
To enhance the accessibility in childcare provision for foreign newcomers in Brussels, building bridges between intermediary organization and Childcare provisions, training and qualification of ex-newcomers willing to work in the provisions, training childcare professionals to work with respect for diversity and parental involvement.  
Manual: 'Building bridges'  
([www.vbjk.be](http://www.vbjk.be), e-publication)
- 2007 **Development of a Training for trainers: ECEC provisions with a social function**  
Under the authority of Kind en Gezin, the governmental organisation
- 2005-2008 **Creating a quality frame for childcare centres with focus on social inclusion**  
Ecce Ama project, European Equal project. 2005 - 2008. Publication: ECEC with social function, VBJK 2008
- 2006-2010 **Diversity in Early Childhood Education and Training' DECET (European network)**  
2006-2010: member of the board of Decet  
Co author of the brochure: Making sense of good practice(2007) Development of quality criteria via participative research for ECEC in collaboration with the Freie Universität Berlin, Schedia (Athene), Strathclyde University (Glasgow), Essse (Lyon) and the British Centre for Research in Early Childhood. Publication: "Diversity and Equity: Making sense of good practices" DECET (2007)
- 2001-2004 **Co-ordination of EU Socrates project-Grundtvig 2: "Partnership between parents and professionals in respect for diversity"**  
A collaboration between Acep (FR), Ista (D), Mutant (NL), VBJK(B). 2001 -2004 Parents and professionals from 30 childcare provisions reflected together and exchanged experiences about partnership and diversity.

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

1982 - 1987

Master in Psychology and Educational Science  
University Ghent

**PERSONAL SKILLS**

Mother tongue(s)

Dutch

Other language(s)

English

French

UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
C1	C1	B2	B2	B2
C1	C1	B2	B2	B2

Levels: A1/2: Basic user - B1/2: Independent user - C1/2 Proficient user  
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Publications

*Inclure des enfants à besoins spécifiques, c'est accueillir la diversité*, Revue petite enfance, n°107 - janvier (2012)

*Accessibility of childcare provisions in Brussels and Ghent: Toegankelijkheid van kinderopvangvoorzieningen in Brussel en Gent*, Vervaeet, V.; Tijdschrift voor Welzijnswerk, nr. 307 (2010)

*L'inclusion des enfants ayant des besoins spécifiques*, VBJK (2010)

*Childcare with social function, a place where children, parents, professionals and neighborhood meet each other* (VBJK 2008); *Kinderopvang met sociale functie. Een plaats waar kinderen, ouders, medewerkers en buurt elkaar ontmoeten* (VBJK 2008)

*Diversity and Equity: Making sense of good practice*; DECET (2007)

*Making Bridges, ECEC and Integration* (2006); *Bruggen Bouwen, Kinderopvang en Inburgering* (2006)

KIDDO-magazine, articles for professionals working with Young children and their families.