

**‘Specialization in ICTs and Special Education: Psychopedagogy of Integration’
Postgraduate Program
DEMOCRITUS UNIVERSITY OF THRACE Department of Greek Philology
in collaboration with
NCSR DEMOKRITOS Informatics and Telecommunications Institute**

**STRENGTHENING EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS IN CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL
EDUCATIONAL NEEDS THROUGH MOBILE PHONE APPLICATIONS**

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ABSTRACT

Individuals with special educational needs seem to have reduced executive functions, as a result of which they are at risk of low school performance, staying in the same class and/or dropping out of high school, as well as social exclusion. Mobile phones as a tool in the education of these people can contribute in the best possible way to the development of their skills, the building of the required knowledge, and the provision of equal opportunities in their social life thus strengthening their independence and self-esteem and thus improving their school performance and integration into society. The present research was based on articles in scientific journals and specialized books, with the aim of investigating how mobile phones can help enhance executive functions and therefore the school performance of these individuals. The results showed that mobile phones are an ambitious tool to enhance these functions but also to develop appropriate training programs, as they can be adapted to the needs of people with special educational needs.

Key words: Executive functions, Working memory, Inhibitory control, Metacognition, Empathy, Mobile phones

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