



# A Warm Welcome!

From your preschool class, school and recreation centre



ÖREBRO



# Contents

## The preschool class

The first step towards school	7
Choosing school	7
A smooth transition to school	7
A typical day for a preschool class pupil	7
The educational activity	8
As parent you are important	8
Progress reviews	9
The law that governs the preschool class?	9
A secure place with sound values	9
School health service	10
Your child is insured	10

## The nine-year compulsory school

All children must go to the compulsory school	13
Pleasure in learning – important all through life	13
Special school	13
Beginning compulsory school earlier	14
The adults who work in the school	14
Progress reviews and the right to have an influence	14
School transport	15
Native language other than Swedish	15
Special support	16
If you want to change compulsory school	16
Profiles	16
Independent compulsory schools	17
What governs the compulsory school?	17

## The day recreation centre

Child-care alternatives	20
School-age child care for children of compulsory school age	20
What is a day recreation centre?	21
What governs day recreation centres?	21
Application	21
Day recreation centre only during school holidays and on study days	21
Night care	22
What does it cost?	22
Refund because of illness	22
Notify your times	23
Staff planning days	23
Cancelling your place	23

## Terms and definitions

### The Education Act

Enacted by the Riksdag and states general aims of education and guidelines for the form to be taken by educational activities.

### Timetable

Decided by the Riksdag and states the guaranteed time for which pupils have the right to tuition.

### Lgr11

National curriculum for the compulsory school.

### Curricula

Are decided by the Government and state the basic aims of and guidelines for the compulsory school and the values that are to underlie the activities.

### Syllabuses

Decided by the Government and state the goals for teaching in the various subjects.

### School plan

The municipality decides on the school plan. This describes how municipal schools are to work and develop.

### Operational plan

The compulsory schools decide on their own operational plan. This describes how the particular school will work for the coming year.

### Individual development plan (IUP)

Written plan setting out how the pupil is to attain the goals in the school's syllabuses. This is drawn up together by the pupil, the teacher and the legal guardians.

### School-age child care

The day recreation centre (fridtidshem or fritids, which are the same thing) is the most common form of before-and-after school child care.

### Educational care

OSchoolchildren's care can also be provided in a form other than the day recreation centre, such as a "registered childminder's home"

# The preschool class



Starting in a preschool class is the first step towards school. It is the beginning of an exciting and interesting time for both children and parents.

All of us who work in Örebro look forward to welcoming your child into our schools.



## The first step towards school

Your child can start in a preschool class in the autumn of the year when he or she reaches the age of six. Starting at preschool class is optional and free of charge

The preschool classes are held on the premises of the compulsory school. Before each school year all six-year-olds will receive a letter telling them which school they belong to.

## Choosing school

All children have a designated school, which means that there is a guaranteed place for the child in that school. The designated school is determined by the address where the child is registered for population purposes. This means that the preschool class the child attends does not affect the designated school for the child.

If you want to transfer to another municipal school than the one designated, you use the place offer sent out with the letter to future preschool class children. An application form for change of school is available on [orebro.se](http://orebro.se), where you can also read more about choosing a school.

## A smooth transition to school

The preschool class involves a smooth transition between preschool and compulsory school. There is often a close collaboration between the preschool class and the first school year to help the children in their new school to get to know each other and the staff who work there in a natural way.

## A typical day for a preschool class pupil

The preschool class is usually held in the morning; the day ends with eating lunch together. In the afternoon the children attending school child care go over to the day recreation centre. This may be in the same premises as the preschool class or in other premises in the school.

## Educational activities

The preschool classes often use working methods from both preschool and school proper. Educational activities should stimulate the child's development and learning.

The teachers need to encourage the child's own initiatives and wishes, and sometimes to create pleasure and interest in things by presenting them in an attractive manner. Play is still an important part of the child's development.

## Parents are important

It is you, the parent, who knows your child best. For your child to feel as well as possible and happy in the preschool class it is important for you to take a part in the child's schooling and to feel that you have the opportunity to have an influence.

One way of being involved as a parent is to be on the parents' council at the school. In addition you will be invited to a parents' meeting at least once a term. At the parents' meeting you will be given information about what is happening in the preschool class and have the opportunity to ask questions or bring up any subject that you think important.

Naturally, you can talk to the staff of the preschool class at any time if you have any concerns.



## Progress reviews

Once every term there is a progress review when you, your child and the child's preschool teacher meet to discuss how your child is getting on in the preschool class. You set goals and decide what your child needs to practice more in the near future.

Identifying the areas where the child needs strengthening as early as the preschool class makes the child better equipped to attain the goals set in the compulsory school later.

## The law that governs the preschool class

The general provisions of the Education Act on schools also apply to the preschool class. The curriculum for the compulsory school (Lgr11) has been amended to include the preschool class. The preschool class is a part of the school and the first step in implementing and attaining the goals of the curriculum. However there are no knowledge goals that have to be attained in the preschool.

The principal of the compulsory school is often also the principal for the preschool class.

## A secure place with sound values

All children should feel secure in the preschool class. We do not tolerate any form of abusive treatment in the school. All schools have equal treatment plans that describe how to prevent bullying and how to deal with it if it occurs. You will find the equal treatment plan on the school's website.

The school has a foundation of values that all the staff support. All individuals are of equal worth; girls and boys, men and women should have equal rights and opportunities. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child must be reflected in every aspect of school operations and the best interests of children and pupils must always come first.

## School health service

All pupils, from preschool class to upper secondary school, have access to the school health service, in other words nurse and doctor. It is the job of the school health service to monitor the physical development of all pupils and to promote good health, a good working environment and good living habits.

The preventive work includes health check visits, which include weighing, measurement, eye-testing and examination of the spine. Another part of the health check is a discussion of health where the child's own questions about health are discussed. Vaccinations are offered during years two and nine.

School health service staff are bound by confidentiality in order to protect your and your child's privacy. Read more about health and support on [orebro.se](http://orebro.se).

## Your child is insured

All children in preschool classes, schools and day recreation centres are insured against accidents twenty-four hours a day. You can read more about insurance online at [orebro.se](http://orebro.se), where you can also download claim forms.

# The nine-year compulsory school



**In the Municipality of Örebro the best interests of children and pupils must always be put first.**

**Democracy, participation and influence must run consistently through the children's time at preschool and school.**

**The aim is for all children to become secure people who develop, grow and gain the knowledge they need for their adult lives.**



## All children must attend compulsory school

In the autumn of the year when your child reaches seven, the first year of the nine-year compulsory school begins. By law, all children and young people in Sweden must attend the nine-year compulsory school. The pupils receive free teaching, free textbooks and materials and free lunch.

At the school all pupils should acquire basic knowledge of, for example, Swedish, English and mathematics. It is important for the pupils to learn what they need to know and as far as possible at their own pace.

The school should prepare children and young people for living and working in society. It is also important for them to be able to leave school with confidence and good social skills.

## The joy of learning – important all through life

The compulsory school should instil the joy of learning in children and young people joy, which will be useful to them for the rest of their lives.

The compulsory school follows the general aims, but everyday teaching should be based on the needs and interests of each pupil.

The pupils have considerable scope for being active and planning and taking responsibility for their working day – always with the support of the adults in the school.

## Special school

The special school is there for children and young people who do not attain the school's knowledge goals because they have some form of learning difficulties. They receive a specially adjusted education that corresponds as far as possible to the education given in the compulsory school.

The special school consists of nine school years. There are special school classes at several compulsory schools in Örebro.

## **Beginning compulsory school earlier**

You can apply to have your child begin at the compulsory school at the age of only six. You apply by contacting the school to which the child belongs (the designated school).

## **The adults who work in the school**

In the compulsory school children meet many adults; as well as teachers there are recreation leaders, preschool teachers, special needs teachers, the nurse and the head teacher. Sometimes there are also various resource persons for pupils who need special support.

## **Progress reviews and the right to have an influence**

As a parent you are the most important person in your child's life and you should feel that you can have an influence on your child's schooling. Every compulsory school should also work with issues related to democracy. They can for example do this in a school council in which parents are included.

The pupils have considerable scope for being involved and planning the content of the school's teaching – always with the support of the adults.

The teachers should have progress reviews with pupils and guardians at least once every term. In the interviews the child's progress at school is discussed and an individual development plan (IUP) for the child's continued learning is worked out together.

## School transport

Children who live a long way from their compulsory school receive free school transport, but only to their designated school. The general rule is that a compulsory school pupil has a right to school transport if the distance between the home and the school is at least three kilometres in the preschool class and school years 1–3, four kilometres in school years 4–6 and five kilometres in school years 7–9.

In addition to the distance between the home and the school, considerations of the safety of the route or other special reasons, such as illness, may make pupils eligible for free school transport.

## Native language other than Swedish

Children with a guardian whose native language is not Swedish have the right to instruction in their native language if this is a language they use every day, for example in the home.

Children who have a native language other than Swedish also have a right to receive instruction in the subject “Swedish as a Second Language”. Both native language teaching and Swedish as a Second Language are an important basis for learning.

For those pupils who have a different native language and who need language support for their school work there is study guidance in the native language.

## Special support

All children and young people need support at school for their development and their learning. At various times, some pupils may need more support than others. The support is adjusted to the needs and abilities of the pupil. This may involve changing the method of working in the group to which the pupil belongs, using technical aids or giving extra adult support.

## If you want to switch compulsory schools

Municipal compulsory schools must primarily accept the children for whom the school is their assigned school. Thereafter, places can be offered to other children.

If you would like to switch to another municipal school, you must apply to the school you would like your child to transfer to. You can read more about the rules concerning school choice and how to apply on the website, [orebro.se](http://orebro.se)

## Profiles

Some compulsory schools in Örebro have some form of special profile, usually from year 4 or year 7. If you would like to know more about these special profiles and what they involve, you will find information on [www.orebro.se](http://www.orebro.se) or the school's website [orebro.se/skolansnamn](http://orebro.se/skolansnamn).



## Independent compulsory schools

Independent (or “free”) compulsory schools are run by a body other than the municipality. They comply with the same laws and policy as the municipal compulsory school and must be approved by the National Agency for Education.

There are a number of independent compulsory schools in Örebro. The independent schools are open to everyone, but children are not automatically granted a place and must apply to attend. Independent schools are not required to give priority to those children who live nearest to the school.

## What governs the compulsory school?

Nationally, the school is governed by the Education Act and the timetable decided by the Riksdag. The Government decides on curricula and syllabuses.

At the local level, each compulsory school decides its own operational plan. You can read the operational plans online at [www.orebro.se](http://www.orebro.se) and on the schools’ own websites.

# The day recreation centre



Like preschool activities, day recreation centres have a dual purpose.

They should both contribute to good conditions in which to grow up and stimulate children's development and learning and make it possible for parents to combine parenthood with work or study.

## Child care alternatives

There are various forms of child care outside school hours for school-age children:

- Day recreation centres
- Educational care
- Open recreation activities.

The most common form of school-age child care is the day recreation centre (fritidshem or fritids). Since 1 July 2009 parents have also been able to choose some form of educational care for their child.

Open recreation activities are meant for children aged 10-12. The children are not registered for open recreation activities – the families decide for themselves how often the child should attend.

## For children of compulsory school age

All children aged between six and twelve who have parents who work or study have a right to a place at a day recreation centre – what we colloquially call “fritids”. They can be at the day recreation centre while the parents are working or studying, including travel time to and from work or school. Children may also be given a place based on special circumstances.

Children of parents who are looking for work or on parental leave do not have a right to a place at a day recreation centre.

## What is a day recreation centre?

A day recreation centre is an educational group activity that is intended to complement the school and offer children meaningful leisure activity and support in their development. The recreation centre is open for children before and after school hours and during school holidays.

Activities at the recreation centre should be fun, be based on the children's interests and initiative and be geared to their various abilities.

## What governs day recreation centres?

The compulsory school curriculum (Lgr11) also covers day recreation centres. The curriculum includes such matters as the equal worth of individuals, respect, security and joy in learning – things that should run through teaching in the schools and day recreation centre activities.

## Application

Parents often apply for a place in an after-school centre when their children begin the preschool class for six-year olds. You apply for after-school centre placement via the e-service "Application to after-school centre" on the website, orebro.se

## Day recreation centre only during school holidays and on study days

When the child is only at the recreation centre during school holidays and on study days (max. 15 days per term), this is called a limited-term placement. The last date for application for a limited-term place is 1 July (for the autumn term) and 1 January (for the spring term). If the child already attends the recreation centre and you want to switch to a limited-term place there is no cancellation period.

## Night care

Parents who work later than 8 pm on weekday evenings or at weekends may apply for night care for their child. The parents' hours of work have to be confirmed with a certificate and timetable and are to be submitted at the same time as the application.

## What does it cost?

The basic charge for having a child at day recreation centre is 2 per cent of income. The charge at recreation centres works in the same way as in child day care: you pay a fixed charge irrespective of how many hours your child is there.

The amount of the charge depends on the total income of the household where the child is registered for population purposes. If you have more than one child enrolled at recreation centre or in child day care the charge per child is reduced. You can read more about charges on [orebro.se](http://orebro.se).

## Refund because of illness

If your child is absent for a substantial period because of illness, you can obtain a refund of the charge as from the 15th day of illness. You apply for this on a form that may be found on [orebro.se](http://orebro.se).

The head teacher of the school must certify on the form that the child has been absent. You send the form in when the period of illness is over and the child is well again.

### **Notify your times**

You must provide a timetable for the time to be spent by the child at the day recreation centre. The timetable forms a basis for planning activities. The child's times must correspond to the times when the parents are working or studying, including travel time. The form for the timetable may be found on [orebro.se](http://orebro.se) or at the recreation centre.

### **Staff planning days**

Every term the staff have a number of planning days. The day recreation centre may then be closed. If you cannot make child care arrangements for these days we will arrange temporary alternatives – contact your recreation centre to find out what applies in your area.

### **Cancelling your place**

When your child is going to leave the day recreation centre the period of notice is 60 calendar days (approx. two months). You pay a charge throughout the period of notice. The period of notice starts on the day you hand in the form. The form is on [www.orebro.se](http://www.orebro.se) or at your child's recreation centre.

Your child is automatically deregistered when he or she completes school year six.

## More information

Would you like to know more about compulsory school in Örebro?  
Visit [orebro.se](http://orebro.se) or the website of the particular school  
[orebro.se/school name](http://orebro.se/school name).

You can call the Örebro Service Centre on 019-21 10 00 to reach  
any of our compulsory schools and the politicians responsible for  
education in Örebro.

**Örebro kommun**  
**Förvaltningen förskola och skola**

019-21 10 00  
[orebro.se](http://orebro.se)

2016

FOTO: LEIF JOHANSSON, KICKI FUNBO, AUGUST ÅBERG/SCANDINAV BILDBYRÅ  
PRODUKTION: KOMMUNIKATIONSAVDELNINGEN  
TRYCKERI: ÅTTA.45



Miljömärkt trycksak, 3041 0001