

The right to education and compulsory education

Information for parents/guardians with children in a preschool class, compulsory school and compulsory school for pupils with intellectual disabilities.



As a parent/guardian, you are important for your child's education

♥ Together for the best interests of the child

The fact that you, as a parent/guardian, are curious and involved in your child's education is an important success factor for your child at school. If your child does not want to go to school, it is important that we, the adults, are responsive and find out the reasons why in order to provide the right support.

Good cooperation and a continuous dialogue with the school create a good basis for your child's well-being and development.

As a parent/guardian, you have a responsibility to get your child to school. In case of illness, you as the parent/guardian must report your child's absence to the school as soon as possible. The child must have a valid reason for not going to school, such as an illness or leave granted by the school.

Örebro Municipality uses Skola 24, a web-based system for timetabling and non-attendance reporting.

More information on how to register in the system is available from the page Absenteeism and Compulsory Education in Compulsory School on [å orebro.se](http://orebro.se).

👤 Compulsory education – a shared responsibility

Compulsory education means that all children must attend school. This applies to all children who are registered in Sweden and takes effect from the autumn term of the year when the child turns six and is regulated under the Education Act (SFS 2010:800). There are children who are asylum seekers or undocumented immigrants who are not covered by compulsory education but are still entitled to education.

If the school finds that there are concerns about a child, the school is obliged to make a report of concern to social services. If the parent/guardian is found not to have fulfilled his or her responsibility, the municipality may impose a conditional fine on the parent/guardian.



The right to education

In Sweden, all children have the right to attend school free of charge. The school must provide a safe and accessible environment for all children. This means that every child has the right to adaptations and support based on their circumstances and needs. Security, a calm study environment, participation and influence are important for how children will thrive and achieve the goals of the education.

Deferred compulsory education

If there are special reasons, compulsory education can be deferred and take effect from the year the child turns seven.

Deferred compulsory education is always assessed by the home municipality upon an application from the child's parent.

The fulfilment of compulsory education in other ways and the end of compulsory education

In exceptional cases, a child may be allowed to fulfil his or her compulsory education in other ways than those specified in the Education Act. However, the requirements are high for the fulfilment of compulsory education in other ways to be permitted, and the provision should be used very restrictively by the home municipality.

As a parent/guardian, you are important for promoting your child's school attendance

To get through school creates opportunities for your child to have meaningful employment and better prospects. Your child builds relationships at school, learns to co-exist and cooperate with others, and establishes important social relationships. The school also provides information about human rights and fundamental democratic values. Children who are not attending school are at risk of not meeting the learning objectives.

School is an important protective factor for our children, it protects them from mental illness, crime, unemployment and social problems.

As a parent/guardian, you are important for promoting your child's school attendance

Please help by doing the following:

- Talk positively about school, encourage, be involved, listen and give your support.
- Attend progress reports and parent-teacher meetings.
- Have a dialogue with the school and let them know if there is anything the school needs to know about your child.
- Inform the school early if you find that your child is reluctant to go to school.
- Talk to the school if the absenteeism is due to something in school, the sooner the school receives the information, the easier it will be for the school to provide the right adaptations and opportunities for your child.
- Establish good functioning routines for sleep, food, hygiene, clothes, leisure activities and screen time.
- Be aware that many children and young people communicate with each other on various social media. It is important to have a dialogue with your child about this and to ensure that there is time and energy for school.

Early signs of school absenteeism

If you notice early warning signs in your child, please contact the school. These could be, for example:

- Your child finds it hard to go back to school after an absence due to illness or holidays.
- Negative feelings about school.
- Recurrent physical complaints, such as stomach pain or headache, for which there is no explanation and which diminish when the child is allowed to stay home from school.
- Difficulties at home in the morning.
- The relationship between your teacher and your child is not very good.
- Challenges associated with learning.
- Invalid absence.
- When your child avoids certain subjects or occasions at school such as exams, outdoor activities days or physical education lessons.
- Separation issues, your child contacts you often during the school day.
- Difficulties with social interaction, your child withdraws and refrains from social activities both at school and at home.

Promote attendance and prevent absenteeism

The municipality is responsible for promoting attendance and preventing absenteeism. In order to succeed, it is important that the school is quick to follow up children's absenteeism.

The school must inform children and parents/guardians about the procedures relating to attendance, absenteeism and leave.

Action plan

The school has an action plan which shows how the school seeks to promote attendance as well as prevent and deal with absenteeism. The action plan shows the actions taken, who is responsible and when the actions were initiated. This means, among other things, that you as a parent/guardian are expected to report in Skola24 if your child is absent. If your child is absent without permission, the school will contact you the same day.

By paying attention to absenteeism at an early stage and addressing the causes, the possibility of providing the support your child needs increases. Depending on the reason and extent of the absenteeism, the school will contact your child and you as the parent/guardian.

Problematic school absenteeism

Absenteeism is always a symptom of something. By finding out the causes early on, the possibility of supporting your child increases.

Some children are at a higher risk than others for problematic school absenteeism. It can be helpful to consider which risk factors apply to your child and whether these can be changed to reduce the risk.

Please contact the school if your child or you as the parent/guardian have any thoughts or concerns about school. You and your child are important and significant!

Contact details for your child's school are available via orebro.se/skola.

Örebro Municipality
Pre-School and Primary School Administration

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