

# The preschool is for your child

A BOOKLET ABOUT THE CURRICULUM FOR THE PRESCHOOL



*Skolverket*



## You are important

You know your child best. This is why your views are important for the preschool. Tell us what you think, and make it easier for the school staff to give your child just what it needs. To be involved and exercise influence effectively, you need to know how the preschool is intended to work.

## Towards the same goals

The government has drawn up a curriculum which lays down the fundamental values of the preschool, and what its goals and tasks are. Reading the curriculum for the preschool will help you get to know what expectations and demands you can make on the preschool.

There are both municipal preschools and independent preschools. A politically appointed board is responsible for municipal preschools, whilst a regular board is responsible for independent preschools. All preschools are required to follow the curriculum.

As a rule the preschool caters for children aged from 1 to 6 years. All children between the ages of 3 and 6 have the right to attend the preschool free of charge 525 hours a year.

» In the preschool, children are supervised by adults who see the potential each child has.«

FROM THE CURRICULUM FOR THE PRESCHOOL, LPFÖ 98 (REVISED 2010)



## Step by step towards lifelong learning

The preschool should be based on democratic foundations. Essentially this involves the school staff creating an open and democratic climate where all children can experience both their own intrinsic value and that of others.

Activities in the preschool should be characterised by pedagogical approaches where care, attention, socialisation and learning together form a whole. In the first instance, this means that the preschool exists to serve your child, even though it should also make it possible for you to work or study.



The curriculum states that play is an important part of a child's development and learning. The staff should take into account the child's views, interests and experiences when planning their daily work. Children should be able to express themselves in different ways, both on their own and together with others in activities such as song and music, art, dance, drama, speech and writing.

Children should have the opportunity of developing their cultural identity. Language development of the child is an important area in the preschool. The preschool should ensure that children with a mother tongue other than Swedish, receive the opportunity of developing both their Swedish language and their mother tongue.

The preschool should aim to counteract traditional gender patterns and gender roles. All girls and boys should have the same opportunities to develop without limits.



## Each preschool is unique

The aim of the curriculum is to ensure that all children attend an equally good preschool, irrespective of where they live. Since all preschools follow the same curriculum, they also have the same goals. However, working methods may differ. What is appropriate in one preschool, perhaps does not function in another. The school should be adapted to the needs of the child.

The municipality or the board of an independent preschool has ultimate responsibility for the preschool. You can turn there if any problems occur that you and the school staff or the head of the preschool are unable to solve yourselves.

»The preschool should inspire children to explore the surrounding world.«

FROM THE CURRICULUM FOR THE PRESCHOOL, LPFÖ 98 (REVISED 2010)





## Cooperation with the home

The curriculum states that the work of the preschool should be carried out in close and confidential cooperation with the home. This is why it is important that you talk with the staff if there is anything you are unsure of. A good opportunity for doing this is when leaving and collecting your child. In this case, the school staff should tell you what sort of day your child has had. You can also tell the staff if something special has happened that it might be good for them to know about.

The staff are required to arrange a development dialogue where you discuss how your child is feeling and progressing, and how the preschool is functioning. The curriculum should provide support for the dialogue.

»The preschool should be enjoyable, secure, and rich in providing learning opportunities for all children attending.«

FROM THE CURRICULUM FOR THE PRESCHOOL, LPFÖ 98 (REVISED 2010)





## If you want to read the whole of the curriculum?

The curriculum applies in all preschools. You can order or download the curriculum from the National Agency for Education's website at [www.skolverket.se](http://www.skolverket.se)

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