



PRE-SCHOOL & SCHOOL SEARCH SERVICES

When moving with school age children, the choice of a new school is an important decision for the entire family. The school search service guides you through the school system and your options.

Children may start pre-school at the age of 12 months. Pre-schools provide a pedagogical, stimulating environment designed around children's development. Most parents chose a group setting childcare service while working or studying. Depending on local regulations, children might be entitled to limited child care if parent(s) is a student, unemployed (actively seeking employment), or on parental leave.

At the age of 5 or 6, all children attend a mandatory "pre-school class" (*förskoleklass*), merging the pedagogical methods of pre-school with those of compulsory school. From the ages of 6/7, to 15/16, children attend the nine-year compulsory school, divided into three stages.

The great majority of schools in Sweden are municipally run. Autonomous and publicly funded schools, known as independent schools are also available. Although education objectives in independent schools are comparable to municipal schools, the focus area or orientation may differ from municipal schools. A handful of boarding schools, known as "private schools", are funded by privately paid tuition.

Au-pair and nanny services are available but availability will vary greatly between cities.

THE PRE-SCHOOL & SCHOOL SEARCH SERVICE

- Needs analysis
- Explanation of the Swedish school system
- School search and comparisons
- Set up interviews with available schools
- Assistance with registration

KEEP IN MIND

- Complete and file the school application early.
- A Swedish address and Swedish personal identity numbers for parent(s) and child are required to apply and attend a municipal pre-school or school (may not apply to private or international schools).
- Many pre-schools and schools have more applicants than places available.
- Children living close to the school, or children with siblings already enrolled, have waiting list priority.

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