

INFORMATION ON THE RIGHT TO ADAPTED LANGUAGE EDUCATION FOR PUPILS FROM LANGUAGE MINORITIES

There are three parts to adapted language education:

- Adapted education in Norwegian: Norwegian education is adapted for non-native speakers
- Bilingual subject teaching: The subject is taught in Norwegian and in the pupil's mother tongue by bilingual teachers
- Mother tongue instruction: Teaching of the pupil's native language

Sections 2-8 and 3-12 of the Education Act, on adapted language education for pupils from language minorities, lay down that:

Pupils attending the primary and lower secondary school/upper secondary education who have a mother tongue other than Norwegian or Sami have the right to adapted education in Norwegian until they are sufficiently proficient in Norwegian to follow the normal instruction of the school. If necessary, such pupils are also entitled to mother tongue instruction, bilingual subject teaching, or both.

The mother tongue instruction may be provided at a school other than that normally attended by the pupil.

When mother tongue instruction and bilingual subject teaching cannot be provided by suitable teaching staff, the municipality shall as far as possible provide for other instruction adapted to the pupils' abilities.

Adapted Norwegian education is offered to pupils who do not have sufficient proficiency in the Norwegian language and cannot follow the teaching in Norwegian. Mother tongue instruction and bilingual subject teaching are offered if the pupil needs this help and is a right for newly arrived non-native speakers and other language minority pupils who are not sufficiently proficient in Norwegian to follow the teaching in Norwegian.

The aim of adapted language education is that the pupil will become sufficiently proficient in Norwegian as soon as possible so that he/she can follow the normal teaching. When the pupil is sufficiently proficient in Norwegian, he/she will no longer be given adapted language education.

What happens when the school recommends adapted language education?

- The school assesses the pupils' Norwegian language skills
- The school sends notification to the pupils/parents asking for their consent to a decision being made to grant adapted Norwegian education
- Pupils/parents either consent or do not consent and send their decision to the school
- The school makes a decision if the pupil/parents consent and send the decision to the pupil/parents
- The school does not make a decision if the pupil/parents have not given their consent; the pupil then follows the normal Norwegian language education
- The pupil/parents can appeal the decision

What happens when the pupil/parents apply for adapted language education?

- The pupil/parents send an application to the school
- The school assesses the pupils' Norwegian language skills
- The school assesses whether or not the pupil needs adapted language education
- The school makes a decision
- The pupil/parents can appeal the decision