

INFORMATION ABOUT THE RIGHTS TO ADAPTED LANGUAGE EDUCATION FOR PUPILS FROM LANGUAGE MINORITIES

According to the Education Act §§ 2-8 and 3-12, on adapted language education for pupils from language minorities;

Pupils attending the primary, lower and upper secondary school, 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 a sufficient proficiency in the Norwegian language and thus cannot follow the ordinary teaching in Norwegian. Mother tongue instruction and bilingual subject teaching is offered to newly arrived non-native speakers and other language minority pupils who are not sufficiently proficient in Norwegian to follow any of the ordinary teaching in Norwegian.

The aim of the adapted language education is for the pupil to, as soon as possible, achieve a proficiency in the Norwegian language that allows him or her to follow the ordinary teaching. When the pupil reaches this level of proficiency, he or she will no longer be given adapted Norwegian language education.

What happens when the school recommends adapted language education?

- The school assesses the pupil's Norwegian language proficiency.
- The school sends an advance notice to the pupil/parents/legal guardians, who are entitled to respond to the advanced notice within a set deadline.
- If the pupil/parents/legal guardians consent to adapted Norwegian language education, the school makes a decision that describes the content of the adapted language education. If they oppose, the pupil will follow the normal Norwegian language education
- The pupil/parents/legal guardians may appeal the decision within a set deadline.

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

- The pupil/parents/legal guardians send an application to the school.
- The school assesses the pupil's proficiency in the Norwegian language.
- The school evaluates the results and assesses whether or not the pupil needs adapted/specially adapted Norwegian language education.
- The school makes a decision.
- The pupil/parents/legal guardians may appeal the decision within a set deadline.