



Primary and lower secondary school guidelines for COVID-19

The school in Hällefors municipality has previously provided information to parents/guardians regarding COVID-19 on the basis of the recommendations of the Public Health Agency of Sweden's regional infection control and the Swedish National Agency for Education as applicable on 2 November 2020. This information applies.

The school feels it necessary to clarify what applies to pupils at primary and lower secondary school (grundskola). All decisions regarding the school's approach to COVID-19 have been made collectively in the School Principal's leadership group in consultation with Örebro Regional Council and other schools in the region, as well as on the basis of the recommendations of the Public Health Agency of Sweden and Swedish National Agency for Education.

Along with other compulsory schooling, primary and lower secondary schools are important to the health of children and adolescents. It is important, therefore, to find a balance between children's and adolescents' need for, and right to, education and the infection control measures being taken. Current knowledge indicates that children usually develop mild symptoms with COVID-19 and that school activities have not been shown to be a driving force in spreading infection.

Staff working in schools have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 to any greater extent than other professional groups.

School attendance is compulsory; all healthy children without symptoms must be at school.

Pupils with a family member who has tested positive for COVID-19 can also go to school provided that the pupil does not have symptoms. However, the school has chosen to support parents/guardians who opt to keep their child at home where there is confirmed infection in the family. Such cases will not be recorded as an unlawful absence, although parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that pupils keep up with their studies and for downloading teaching materials.

Staff (adults) who have a member of the family who is infected must stay at home and take a COVID-19 test after five days.

No home teaching will be offered due to concern about the spread of infection. Where healthy pupils do not attend for education at school, this will be recorded as unlawful absence and the school will follow the applicable absenteeism procedures, where a lengthy period of unlawful absence will entail the school notifying the social services under Section 14:1 of the Swedish Social Services Act.

Special solutions can be drawn up in consultation with the head teacher in the case of pupils or parents/guardians in high-risk groups.

No pupil, parent/guardian or member of staff with the slightest symptom of COVID-19 may be present on school premises. Any pupils displaying symptoms during the school day will be sent home.

Any pupil or member of staff displaying symptoms for more than 24 hours must get a COVID-19 test. [information on testing at 1177.se](https://www.1177.se). The test is free of charge.

If you have taken a test that shows you have COVID-19, you should stay at home for at least seven days from the day on which you developed symptoms. You also need to have been fever-free and felt well for at least 48 hours.

If your test was negative, you can return to work, school or other activity as soon as you feel healthy and well again and provided that you have no fever.

Pupils who are at home due to illness are reported as absent each day in Infomentor, and parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that pupils keep up with their studies, and for contacting the school and downloading teaching materials.

Preventive measures have been put in place to reduce the spread of infection at school:

- Information to parents/guardians, pupils and staff on recommendations and preventive measures for COVID-19.
- Information about and performance of handwashing after toilet visits, breaks and before lunch.
- More frequent cleaning of desks, high-touch surfaces, implements/tools used for teaching/in the classroom.
- Distancing and spacing when queueing; avoiding queueing. Distance markers.
- One-by-one seating in classrooms.
- Max. 10 attendees at physical meetings for staff members.
- No mixing of pupil groups or gatherings of pupils from different classes of more than 10, and the possibility of maintaining social distancing.
- Digital meetings where possible, e.g. for workplace meetings, external meetings.
- Teachers have the option to work from home for the part of the working day outside the pupils' school day.
- More spaced out seating where possible in our dining rooms.
- Upper secondary school pupils will collect their food and eat at Pihlskolan in order to free up space for the primary and lower secondary school.
- New glasses when refilling drinks.
- Physical education takes place outdoors, weather permitting, and contact sports are avoided.
- No unannounced visits by parents/guardians or external parties; only booked meetings permitted.
- Children are dropped off and collected outside or in our lobbies/cloakrooms.

- No travel permitted for either staff or pupils.
- Anyone displaying symptoms of COVID-19 will be sent home.
- The school will support parents/guardians who keep their child at home because a family member has confirmed COVID-19. In these cases, no unlawful absence will be recorded.

The school will comply at all times with the directives and recommendations of the authorities and will continually update the measures and information. The above applies until further notice.

*The School Board
Hällefors municipality primary and lower secondary schools.*