

INFORMATION CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO ADAPTED LANGUAGE TEACHING FOR PUPILS FROM LANGUAGE MINORITIES

The right to adapted language teaching for pupils from language minorities is granted pursuant to the Norwegian Education Act: section 2-8 for primary school, section 3-12 for upper secondary education, and the Private School Act, section 3-5.

You have the right to adapted language teaching in Norwegian if you:

- have another mother tongue than Norwegian or Sami
- are not sufficiently proficient in the Norwegian language to follow the normal teaching

This is intended as a transition programme until you are sufficiently proficient in the Norwegian language to follow the normal teaching. Adapted language teaching in Norwegian is the most important measure used for pupils who cannot follow the teaching given in Norwegian.

The school must map and assess your Norwegian language skills to be able to provide you with the correct teaching programme.

This mapping shall take place:

- when you start school in upper secondary education
- throughout the course of the school year to see if you have developed sufficient Norwegian language skills so that you can stop the adapted language teaching

If necessary, you may also have the right to mother tongue instruction, bilingual subject teaching, or both. This is first and foremost intended for new arrivals and other minority pupils who have so poor Norwegian language skills that they cannot follow any teaching given in Norwegian.

Adapted language teaching in Norwegian and bilingual subject teaching shall be given at the school you are attending. Mother tongue instruction may be given at another school. When mother tongue instruction and bilingual subject teaching cannot be provided by qualified teaching staff, other instruction adapted to your needs shall be provided as far as possible.

If you have the right to adapted language teaching, you also have the right to use up to two extra years in upper secondary education if you need this extra time.

If the result of the mapping shows that you need adapted language teaching, you will receive a letter which you must reply to and indicate whether you want to accept the offer or not.

The headmaster makes an individual decision which establishes that you have the right to adapted language teaching in Norwegian, mother-tongue instruction and/or bilingual subject teaching.

One of the conditions of the offer for adapted language teaching is that it will be terminated when you have sufficient proficiency in the Norwegian language.

Pupils who are 15 years of age or older make their own decisions as to whether they want to accept teaching programmes offered to them. This also applies to adapted language teaching, cf. section 32 of the Children's Act.

Questions about procedure and the basis for the decision can be addressed to the school in question.

If you, the student or a parent, are unhappy with the decision you can lodge an appeal.

An appeal of the decision must be lodged in writing and signed. If you are under 18 years of age, your parents/guardian must sign. Address the appeal to the headmaster of the school. The appeal must contain a brief description of what you are appealing and what you feel should be changed in the decision. The final appeals body is the County Governor in the County of Oslo and Akershus.