

Reception policy for students with Icelandic as a foreign language.

According to paragraph 3 in regulations pertaining to the legal rights of students in secondary schools to have lessons in Icelandic, upper secondary schools are required to set out a reception policy for students with Icelandic as a foreign language. The policy should take into account their background, linguistic ability and ability in other subjects as well as what teaching and support the school has to offer. The policy should cover, amongst other things, the enrollment of students, cooperation with lower secondary schools (primary) schools, the structure of the enrollment interview, the making of individual curricula and the structure of the cooperation between teaching staff and specialists in the school.

The enrollment of students.

Students enroll through the Menntagátt website (www.menntagatt.is), if at all possible, but otherwise come to the school's main office where assistance with the application is available. The school's study counsellors take the initiative in inviting prospective students and their parents to an enrollment interview.

Enrollment interview

The study counsellors organize an interview with each student and his/her parents. An interpreter, organized by the school, will be present if necessary. In the interview, information about the student's background and his/her family is gathered in order to be able to meet the student's individual needs as effectively as possible. If the student comes from an Icelandic lower secondary school, the study counsellor gets the parents' permission to gather information from that school.

The student and his/her parents are given all the necessary information about the school's operation and practices, its services and school regulations. The support which the student can get, from the study counsellors as well as other support staff, is also detailed in the interview. Once in the school the study counsellors and the student's supervisor assist the student and the supervisor meets with his/her students at least once a week. In the interview the student and his/her parents are also informed about what the school can offer, on top of what is legally binding, e.g. social- and leisure activities organised by student committee.

Individual curriculum

The courses which the student is enrolled in are chosen in conjunction with him/her and every effort is made for the timetable to reflect the student's interests. Every student who has Icelandic as a foreign language takes the line of study ÍSA103... (Icelandic as a foreign language). Students who feel confident enough to take the normal line ÍSL102/103 are, however, allowed to do so.

In order to lessen the danger of social isolation, students of non Icelandic origin attend lessons in general subjects (courses) with Icelandic students.

The organization of cooperation between teachers and specialists in the school

Cooperation between all teachers involved in teaching students with Icelandic as a foreign language is encouraged. The study counsellors or supervisors disseminate information to the teachers who teach the student in question.

Agreed 1 April 2011