



INFORMATION TO PARENTS AND CARERS ON THE OBLIGATION TO ATTEND SCHOOL, ABSENCES AND MOVING ABROAD

Children who are resident in Sweden have the right to education and an obligation to attend school. The parent/s and carer/s of a child of school age must make sure that the child attends school.

Absence

Chapter 7, Section 18 of the Education Act

1–10 days per academic year

A student may be granted short periods of absence for one-off events. This is decided on the basis of an individual assessment and the decision must be based on an overall assessment of the school situation of the pupil concerned. The decision is made by the head teacher. The head teacher may delegate the right to make the decision to a teacher. No appeals may be made against the decision.

More than 10 days per academic year

If there are special reasons, a longer period of absence may be granted. This is decided on the basis of an individual assessment and the decision must be based on an overall assessment of the school situation of the pupil concerned. The decision is made by the head teacher and cannot be delegated. No appeals may be made against the decision.

Fulfilling the obligation to attend school by other means

Chapter 24, Sections 23–25 of the Education Act

In certain exceptional cases, a pupil may fulfil the obligation to attend school by a means other than attending an ordinary school. This may, for example, involve a pupil needing to attend school abroad (but returning home within 6 months) For an application to do so to be granted:

- the alternative education offered the child must be seen as a full alternative to the education the pupil receives from ordinary school attendance.
- the need to inspect the education must be able to be met
- there must be special reasons in the individual case

Decisions on fulfilling the obligation to attend school by other means are made by the Families Committee. An application from a parent/carer must be received at least 3 months before any move abroad. The application form is available at tomelilla.se under My pages (mina sidor).

If the Families Committee does not approve the application, the child must continue to attend school in Sweden. If the pupil does not do so, the parents/carers may receive a financial penalty (fine). The decision on compliance with the obligation to attend school by other means cannot be appealed against. The decision on the imposition of a fine can be appealed against.

Long-term stay abroad

Chapter 24, Sections 23–25 of the Education Act

The obligation to attend school ceases in cases where the home municipality (Families Committee) judges that the child is staying abroad for the long term (at least 6 months). When the obligation to attend school ceases due to a long-term stay abroad, the home municipality's responsibility for financing the child's education also ceases.

Decisions on the child's long-term stay abroad are made by the Families Committee and the child is deregistered from the current school. An application from the parent/carer must be received at least 3 months before any move abroad. The application form is available at tomelilla.se under My pages (mina sidor).

Permanent move abroad

If the child is to move abroad permanently, the parents/carers must register their move abroad with the Swedish Tax Agency. Once this has been done, the child will no longer be registered as resident in Sweden and is no longer obliged to attend school.

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