

# EDUCATION AND RECREATION PRIORITIES

FJARÐABYGGÐ 2023-2025



## PREVENTIVE MEASURES AT EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

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Fjarðabyggð's Preventive Action Team will be organising preventive measures. Upon reviewing the results of Icelandic surveys in which the municipality has joined, such as Skólapúlsinn, Ungt fólk, and Íslenska æskulýðsrannsóknin, the Team will support government authorities, Fjarðabyggð institutions and professional experts in applying the results to benefit education and recreation programmes. The Team will initiate and support such events in Fjarðabyggð as those related to the Preventive Action Day put on by VA secondary school and the municipality and related to the municipality's cooperative agreements with the National Queer Organisation and

the National Parents' Association as well as the parents' association of Fjarðabyggð. Every year, the Team will meet with the Fjarðabyggð Youth Council.



## MUSIC IN SCHOOLS AND MUSIC SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

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Music shall play a major role in preschool and compulsory school activities. Increasingly, music educators and music teachers shall collaborate and cooperate. Music shall also be increased as a factor in general school operations, partly by introducing it to break up preschool and compulsory school education and as part of joint school events, including singing, dancing and exercise lessons. The various music schools shall work together more, for instance by organising mutual events such as with wind or string bands, etc. Parties in the municipality which offer musical facilities will also be approached regarding cooperation.

## COMPULSORY SCHOOL LEADERSHIP COUNCILS

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Every Fjarðabyggð compulsory school shall have an active student leadership council. School and youth recreation centre personnel shall work with the student leadership council, which assesses the situation at that school and helps in creating a healthy school spirit and cultivating behaviour that increases the well-being of students and staff. For one thing, the leadership council will arrange uplifting events in the school or youth centre.





## OUTDOOR TEACHING & SCHOOL GARDEN PLOTS

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As some of the means for improving the outdoor learning facilities at each population centre and encouraging schools and leisure institutions to utilise these facilities, courses on outdoor education will be held for staff and the facilities rendered suitable for environmental study. Organisations such as rescue teams and touring clubs will be requested to collaborate on outdoor events. School garden plots will be established in the varying population centres, with schools and recreational institutions receiving assistance on using the plots in cooperation with summer work programmes.

## COLLABORATION, COOPERATION, MERGER

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Fjarðabyggð shall encourage collaboration, cooperation and merging. When organisations and institutions within the municipality wish to increase their partnership or merge, Fjarðabyggð staff shall assist them, partly by convening planning meetings so that the parties have the opportunity of harmonising their school, sports and leisure offerings. School and leisure institution employees will be given increased opportunities to work together by helping them travel in between, start professional groups and contract independently employed individuals and/or institutions for example in the arts, culture and vocational subjects. Learning community methodology shall be a guiding light of recreational and educational institutions in Fjarðabyggð, and public transportation shall be subsidised in order to facilitate social, cultural and sports activities. In cooperation with those who work in leisure and sports activities, an effort should be made to launch an annual Fjarðabyggð Family Day, in part to raise awareness about these activities.

## RECREATION

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The leisure period at schools will be positioned under sports and recreation affairs, so that all municipal free-time and leisure activities for children and youths are under one body. The focus shall be on promoting leisure activities with the goals of operating them throughout the year and allowing for differing needs of varying individuals. Leisure activities will be based on exercise, games, sports and outdoor recreation. Fjarðabyggð will utilise a registration and billing system - Sportabler or perhaps others. In any case, the system shall show parents and participants at one place all of the courses available in Fjarðabyggð.

## SCHOOL SERVICES

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In keeping with the idea of early intervention, School Services provides counselling and assists in screening and diagnosis at pre- and compulsory schools. So as to give schools and leisure institutions more support, areas for these Services to spotlight will be determined during the implementation of Iceland's recent Act on Integrated Services in the Interest of Child Prosperity. Also, the allocation models for Fjarðabyggð pre- and compulsory schools will be re-examined, with the aim of furthering ever more professional work.



## LEISURE ACTIVITIES FOR AGES 16-22

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Fjarðabyggð's sports and recreation department is seeking to collaborate with the vocational school VA, the Fjarðabyggð Cultural Office and Austurbrú - the East Iceland Bridge - on operating leisure activities for the age group of 16- to 22-year-olds. The facilities at municipal premises shall be available for this type of leisure activities.

## HEALTH-PROMOTING SOCIETY

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The intention is to push onwards towards the ideal of a health-promoting society. Signs and services for walking and cycling routes in the villages, along with the building of new paths, may be considered integral to this ideal. Through Iceland's Green Steps Programme, Fjarðabyggð will encourage greater general healthiness. In continuation of its health promotion and leisure offerings for senior citizens, Fjarðabyggð will provide the appropriate facilities and guidance.

## SCHOOL & PLAYGROUNDS

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Following a review of school ground arrangements, their construction, maintenance and equipment purchases shall be prioritised such that the facilities become as comparable as possible. In general, the facilities at educational and recreational institutions shall be improved, besides encouraging more walking and cycling transportation.



## FACILITIES

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The aim at Fjarðabyggð institutions, whether for children or staff, is to make the educational and recreational facilities as comparable as is feasible. More convenient schedules for work and activities shall be integral to such progress, regarding both children and staff. One of the objectives shall be to schedule the instruction and leisure of younger children in daytime working hours. Another objective shall be to upgrade accessibility at Fjarðabyggð institutions.



## PLURALISM

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Fjarðabyggð is a pluralistic society which takes advantage of the strengths and opportunities involved. In order to foster knowledge and an open mind, recreational and educational institution employees shall exploit the multifaceted backgrounds of community residents, including culture, traditions, holidays, languages and religions. Icelandic language teaching for immigrants will be in the foreground, as well as information on help with the first-language education of bilingual pupils. Cooperation with parents is crucial, not least with schools and recreational bodies taking the initiative.



FJARÐABYGGÐ



Illustrations: Hafsteinn Hafsteinsson // Layout: Gjallarhorn // Printing: Héraðsprint