



Swedish education

If on holiday, most of us will manage to order a beer or a hotdog in a Swedish restaurant, but have you ever imagined what it would be like to participate in a school meeting, or to take notes during a meeting at your new job? Then you'll need a profound knowledge of the Swedish language. In this Newsletter you'll be informed about the possibilities to learn Swedish. Besides this, you can read about the Swedish school system and some particular examples in our region. Should you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us!!

How to learn Swedish?

The key of a successful integration is your ability to speak the language, that is to say: Swedish.

To start with, it is important to stress that you won't come into society with just English, even if most Swedes speak this language perfectly well. It goes without saying that your ability to speak Swedish is even more important in the professional field, since you most probably will be in competition with native speakers.

Learning a new language takes a lot of time and effort. The best advice we can give you is to take up this challenge as soon as possible. Even if you're not 100% sure about your emigration we recommend you not to wait learning Swedish! Don't underestimate the importance of your knowledge of the language when buying a house, the integration of your children at school and last but not least your chances to earn a living.

Easy language

One comfort; Swedish is not the hardest language to learn: the language in fact resembles the Swedish people: it's charming, uncomplicated and based on a relatively simple grammar structure. Besides that, there are a lot of similarities between the Swedish and Dutch words and expressions which makes it not that difficult to



One of the basic things you need to learn Swedish

understand a Swedish newspaper in a general sense. However, the pronunciation is very different from our language and it takes a lot of training to get this right.

Different ways of learning

As the case in other subjects, the key of your success depends on three elements: time, money and the effort you make! We have listed 4 possibilities out of which you can choose the one some suits you best.

1. The "Volksuniversiteiten" of 25 principal towns in Holland offer a Swedish program of a good level against a reasonable price. Check the website www.volksuniversiteit.nl to find out if there is an opportunity in your hometown.
2. Perhaps a little more luxury is making use of the services of a private teacher. In this case the course will

be "tailored" to your wishes and you are the one to decide the duration, frequency and content of your classes. If you're interested, we'll kindly provide a list of qualified teachers. Please mail: janine.s@fco.se.

3. In case you wish to learn a lot in a short time we can recommend the possibility of an intensive summer course at Uppsala University. In an inspiring environment of an international public you'll not only learn the language, but learn a lot about Swedish culture as well. You can choose between a 2, 4, 6 and 8 weeks package. The package includes day-time education of academic teachers, warm lunch, housing in single room, cultural evenings (lectures, films, performances) and weekend excursions. For more information, please link www.uiss.org/index.html.

4. Finally, there is the possibility to learn Swedish in Sweden at SFI (Swedish for Immigrants). The quality of education yet depends on the municipality and also on your fellow participants. SFI's main focus is fixed on refugees. Since a person from Iraq or Vietnam in general encounters more difficulties in learning Swedish than a European participant, the level for a Dutch participant can in general be considered as rather low.

Learn Professional Swedish in Tingsryd

At Tingsryds Lärcenter/education center, SFI (Swedish for immigrants) is offered to all immigrants. It is practical if you can combine language training with a job. All training is free.

– Immigrants from Holland and Germany learn the Swedish language a lot faster than others. This is quite natural, since the actual language itself is much closer to Swedish. Maybe also the fact that they themselves have decided to move here effects their motivation, says headmaster Olof Ivarsson.

In the autumn the school starts a new education "Professional Swedish", with two alignments: Industry and Healthcare, the areas were most immigrants are able to find employment. For more information please contact gorgen.brolien@tingsryd.se



The Swedish School System

Day care centre

Children between the ages of 1-5 can stay on a day care center. Most of the day care centres are open between 7-18, 5 days a week, but sometimes you can leave your child on other days and other hours. The costs of day care are depending on your salary, but there is a maxtax for 1200 kr. per month.

Compulsory school

In Sweden, all children between the ages of 7-16 must attend school. If the parents wish, a child can start school one year earlier, at the age of six. Municipalities have an obligation to provide a place for all 6-year-olds in a preschool class. In The Netherlands you have to change schools at the age of 12, but in Sweden you have the same education from 7-16 years.

A school day starts between 08.00-08.30 and continues till about 13.00 and 15.00, dependent on the age of the child. If you wish, you can use the possibility to stay on the 'fritids' after school times and in the holidays. Comparing to The Netherlands, the children play a lot outside and in the nature. They sport about 3 times a week and have a lot of activities outside. Children can't double. If necessary they can get extra support from a remedial teacher. Children who need to get more 'challenge' also get extra support from this remedial teacher. And if you come from abroad, you'll also get help with the Swedish language.

Another difference is the food. In Sweden the children get a warm meal, so you can leave your sandwiches with peanut butter, your bottle of Roosvické and you LIGA at home. And if you want to take a holiday outside the holiday season, you can get extra days off (with a maximum of 10 schooldays).

All compulsory education is free of charge. The compulsory school system even offers special programs for children with special needs. In general, neither pupils nor their parents are charged for teaching materials, school meals, health services or transport.

Upper secondary school

Every municipality in Sweden is required by law to offer all students who have completed compulsory school an upper secondary education. In principle, students also have a right to receive their first choice of program. Upper secondary education is free and a non-compulsory form of school. The right to begin an upper secondary school program applies up to and including the



Do you like to learn Swedish online?

In September 09 our successful internet course "Swedish online" will start. We will meet once a week during 10 weeks. You'll have also right to use the system to chat with a relocation-service and other people that you'll need to have contact with during your emigration process. It will only cost you 100 euro/participant. The only thing you'll need is a camera and a headset. If you are interested of more information just get in touch with Camilla Keränen, tel +46 495-24 13 13, camilla.keranen@hultsfred.se.

calendar year in which the student turns 20. After that, there are various types of upper secondary programs for adults. Swedish upper secondary school gives students the basic skills needed to live and work in the community, and prepares them for further study. The Swedish name is gymnasium, but it isn't the same as the Dutch gymnasium! You can choose between several types of upper secondary school and you'll find them all over Sweden. Even in the country side!

Swedish for immigrants, Sfi

Newly arrived adult immigrants over the age of 16 years are entitled to instruction in Swedish for immigrants (SFI). Municipalities are responsible for SFI and also for determining how this instruction is to be organized. SFI shall provide knowledge of the Swedish language and Swedish society. The purpose is to provide adults with the tools to enable them to exercise their rights and fulfill their obligations as citizens in Sweden.

Nature preschool in Svartbäcksmåla for children aged 1 - 5.

Nature preschool means that the main part of the activities is carried out in an outdoor environment where we in different ways make use of what nature has to offer.

The preschool is in an open-air recreation area which offers varying outdoor environments and has a cabin as its base.

The preschool offers child care in the same manner as other preschools in the municipality.

The aim, among other things, is to let the children experience the fun and joys of learning together with others and discover the interplay between everything that lives and grows. It

will also provide the children with a greater understanding of their participation in the cycle of nature as well as see and experience the changes in the seasons.

The staff of the nature preschool consists of trained pedagogues specialized in nature, environment, outdoor life and animals.

Read more at www.nybro.se



Welcome to the best school environment you can imagine!

We have compulsory schools in five villages and upper secondary school in Högsby municipality. There is Swedish for immigrants (Sfi), a municipal adult education and a school for adults with learning disabilities in Högsby.

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One of our small scale schools is Ugglemoskolan in Fågelfors and it's situated close to the forest and yet in the middle of the village Fågelfors. There are two football-grounds and playgrounds for the children, trees to climb in and small roads where the children can learn how to cycle.

Ugglemoskolan i Fågelfors
Photo: Leif Loberg



Students at Stage4You, Mjölnerskolan

Torsås schools are at the top 10-list in Sweden!

In Torsås we are proud of our successful schools, students and the grade averages that are at the top 10-list in Sweden! "Learning for life", is the motto we follow from the first day in pre-school right through compulsory school and further education. We have pre-schools and compulsory schools (age 1-12) in Torsås, Söderåkra, Bergkvara and Gullabo. The older children (age 13-15) attend the compulsory school "högstadiet" in Torsås. We have two secondary/high schools (age 16-19). "Mjölnerskolan" has for example a popular musical artist and production program Stage4You and "Korrespondensgymnasiet" has students from all over the world. If you are interested in studying as an adult, or learn Swedish "SFI" you can do so at Mjölnerskolan. You can attend higher education in the nearby universities of Kalmar, Växjö and Karlskrona.

Schools on Öland

On Öland we have several day care centers and compulsory schools.

More information you can find [here](#) and [here](#). And did you know that one of our compulsory schools is in the top 10 of Sweden?

In Borgholm we have a very famous upper secondary school, [Ölands gymnasium](#) where you can learn all about hotels, restaurants and food. On Ölands gymnasium you can also learn Swedish for Immigrants (SFI) and other [education](#) for adults. And of course, you can even learn by distance. If you don't have your own studyroom, you can use one of our libraries.

Ölands [Folkhögskola](#) has known for its art classes and has even summer courses.



Linnaeus University

New University - New opportunities for students

On 1 January 2010 Växjö University and the University of Kalmar will merge to form Linnaeus University. This new university is the product of a will to improve the quality, enhance the appeal and boost the development potential of teaching and research, at the same time as it plays a prominent role in working closely together with local society. Linnaeus University offers an attractive knowledge environment characterized by high quality and a competitive portfolio of skills.

One plus one is more than two

The two universities want to create a new university based on the collective strengths of the two existing seats of learning by exploiting the potential to create new content and new forms of collaboration in conjunction with the merger. The intention is to continue to conduct activities on two campuses on more or less the same scale as at present.

Linnaeus University will be a modern, international university with the emphasis on the desire for knowledge, creative thinking and practical innovations. For us, the focus is on proximity to our students, but also on the world around us and the future ahead.

A modern university

The underlying rationale for the merger between the University of Kalmar and Växjö University is the ambition to create a university where the focus is fixed firmly on quality and competitiveness.

Linnaeus University will have approximately

- 25,000 students
- 15,000 full-time equivalents
- 2,000 members of staff
- a budget of SEK 1,500 million, with SEK 350 million earmarked for research and postgraduate studies

Study programs or courses at undergraduate level will be given at both campuses. This means that students won't have to travel between the two places, but that you will continue your studies at the place at which you were enrolled. Optional advanced courses will be given at both sites which will give you a wide choice of courses. However, in the case of optional advanced courses, it may be necessary to travel between the campuses. The research groups will increase in number and will be bigger at the new university which will give your education even higher quality.

More information at www.lnu.se



Libraries in Emmaboda – Best in the Country

We got schools for younger children, a secondary school, an upper secondary school and an education for pupils with learning disabilities. Our upper secondary school, Vilhelm Mobergsgymnasiet, and the Industrial program were 2006 classified as the best technical training of the year by the professional association Teknikföretagen. In this program, students are studying part time in real business premises. Emmaboda is also best in the country for lending books to children 0-14 years. Our libraries are also fifth best in the country in total lending.



Industrial program V. Mobergsgymnasiet

Mönsterås in the summertime

The tourist office in the harbor of Mönsterås is the perfect spot for starting exploring the area. Ask for the specially made English language map with information on living and relaxing in Mönsterås. With nature trails, municipal beaches, landscape features, etc.

Tuesdays are special during the summer season, on that day veteran cars from the entire region gather for an informal meeting in the harbor. Opening hours tourist office:
mon - fri 10 - 18
sat - sun 10 - 15
Tel: +46 499-178 00 or +46 499-174 61
(Barbro Holmquist)



Atrinova

Oskarhamn is the home base for Atrinova. Atrinova stands for a joint project of Oskarhamns Academy NOVA; the local business community: OKG AB, Saft Batteries AB, Scania CV AB, SKB Swedish Nuclear Fuel and Waste Management Co, Swedbank AB Oskarhamn and the communities of Oskarhamn, Högsby and Mönsterås. The aim is to support starting enterprises in distinguishing themselves on an academic level. Atrinovas service consists of mediation in the field of education, training, contacts and financial support.

Interested? Please contact Atrinova, tel. + 46 491 167 00 or write an email to: info@atrinova.se



Lärcenter Kronoberg

Lärcenter (learning center) Kronoberg is a joint venture between learning centers in the municipalities Alvesta, Lessebo, Ljungby, Tingsryd, Uppvidinge and Älmhult. The main task is to make sure that people get access to higher learning - at their home turf. This makes it possible to study at a university without having to move or commute and combine part-time

studies with a job. In the learning center in each municipality you find, among other things, classrooms, computers and video conference studios that make it possible to keep both visual and audio contact with teachers, lecturers and study groups in other places. We strive to keep generous opening hours to give you the opportunity to learn when it fits your schedule.

For more information please visit www.larcenterkronoberg.se