

GOALS AND CRITERIA FOR WORK OF LEISURE CENTERS FOR CHILDREN IN EARLY GRADES OF COMPULSORY SCHOOL

The role of leisure centers for 6-9-year-old children. The main role of leisure centers for 6-9-year-old children is to offer content-rich leisure and free time activities in a child-friendly and creative environment in which the working methods are characterized by free play and choice.

<p>THE AIM OF THE LEISURE CENTERS FOR 6-9-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN IS TO:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer all children participation in diverse inclusive leisure and free time activities with the goal of strengthening their self-confidence and social skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have a working environment characterized by safety, professionalism and respect in which positive communication and democratic working methods are highly valued in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. 		
<p>THE CHILDREN IN THE LEISURE CENTER.</p>	<p>GOALS</p> <p>1 The children feel well, and they are safe, healthy and happy</p>	<p>2 The children have a strong self-image and social skills</p>	<p>3 The children are active participants and have equal opportunities to influence the activities and circumstances</p>	<p>4 The children are interested in the activities and get to highlight their strengths</p>
	<p>QUALITY CRITERIA</p> <p>a Children feel safe during all activities in the leisure center.</p> <p>b In the leisure center activities, antisocial behavior is countered in any form in which it may appear, such as bullying, other violence, humiliation and gender-based or other discrimination, in order to ensure the general wellbeing of children.</p> <p>c In the leisure center activities, children are fostered according to the needs and maturity of each individual, so that they get to enjoy their childhood.</p>	<p>a In the leisure center activities, the children's talents of expression and creativity are nurtured in order to strengthen their self-image and communication skills.</p> <p>b Equality is a key factor in all activities so that everyone gets to enjoy themselves on their own terms in a society of mutual respect without discrimination.</p> <p>c In the leisure center activities, children get opportunities to exchange opinions with other children and adults, mediate cases and find common solutions.</p>	<p>a Children's perspectives are sought out when decisions are taken about the activities.</p> <p>b Free play of children gets enough space.</p> <p>c Children have a choice of diverse and challenging activities and take part in shaping them in collaboration with the staff.</p>	<p>a The work takes note of the age and maturity of the children.</p> <p>b In the leisure center activities, the focus is on the strengths of the children and their interests.</p> <p>c Children show interest in attending the leisure center.</p>
<p>WORKING METHODS AND ACTIVITIES.</p>	<p>GOALS</p> <p>5 There is active collaboration with parents, schools, sports clubs, youth societies and others in the local community</p>	<p>6 The working environment is without discrimination and is characterized by warmth, safety and respect</p>	<p>7 Activities are diverse and creative, and they are characterized by the children's interest and development</p>	<p>8 Democratic work methods, initiative of children, choice and free play are dominant</p>
	<p>QUALITY CRITERIA</p> <p>a The director seeks active communication with school directors, school staff, parents and directors of sports clubs, youth clubs and art schools about common projects.</p> <p>b Parents are satisfied with the children's activities.</p> <p>c Parents are satisfied with the communication with staff.</p>	<p>a All children in the local community have full access to the leisure center.</p> <p>b Every child takes part in the program and enjoys being together with other children.</p> <p>c Children get appropriate support in all activities.</p>	<p>a Children are encouraged to be curious and to take part in diverse and demanding activities in which nature and the nearest environment are used as a platform.</p> <p>b Workshops and further information are offered on certain topics in which the focus is on creative work and art.</p> <p>c Outdoor work and events are a regular feature of the leisure center activities.</p>	<p>a In the work with children, democratic methods are used systematically.</p> <p>b Children are encouraged to bring in their own ideas for activities and they are supported in shaping them and carrying them out.</p> <p>c Children are encouraged to express their opinions in an effective and constructive way.</p>
<p>HUMAN RESOURCES AND PROFESSIONAL WORK.</p>	<p>GOALS</p> <p>9 The municipality forms a policy about the leisure center and supports professional development of the work</p>	<p>10 A director educated in pedagogy and education leads the work and provides professional leadership</p>	<p>11 The staff is capable and shows initiative in using their interests and knowledge in the work</p>	<p>12 The staff are positive in communication and approach all children with respect and care</p>
	<p>QUALITY CRITERIA</p> <p>a The municipality provides suitable training to new employees of leisure centers, encourages professional development and creates opportunities for it.</p> <p>b The municipality supports development and innovation in collaboration with all concerned; children, parents, staff and the local community.</p> <p>c The municipality carries out evaluation of the work of leisure centers.</p>	<p>a The director spearheads shaping the leisure center work and seeks to implement professional working methods.</p> <p>b During recruitment, all applicants should present a criminal record that provides information about violence or misuse and the director's permission to seek information from the criminal register.</p> <p>c The director engages staff, children and others concerned in shaping the service.</p>	<p>a The staff ensure diverse and constructive activities for the children.</p> <p>b The staff are satisfied at work and consider their skills and knowledge to be applied well.</p> <p>c The staff work together to carry out activities.</p>	<p>a The staff meet the needs of individual children so that the diversity in children's groups is appreciated.</p> <p>b The communication of the staff with the children and each other is characterized by concern for others, patience and solution-orientation.</p> <p>c The staff praise and encourage each other and the children.</p>
<p>RESOURCES AND ORGANIZATION.</p>	<p>GOALS</p> <p>13 Effective information and communication technology supports the work in various ways</p>	<p>14 Activities are organized, opening hours and the daily schedule are visible and presented to children, parents and main partners</p>	<p>15 The housing and the outdoor area are safe and organized according to the criteria of the leisure activities, equitable opportunities and the different needs of children</p>	<p>16 A selection of materials and equipment that appeals to various interest areas of children is available and meets their needs independent of their age and maturity</p>
	<p>QUALITY CRITERIA</p> <p>a In the leisure center, there is a telephone and equipment connected to the internet.</p> <p>b The website of the leisure center contains correct basic information about the activities, is active and is updated regularly.</p> <p>c Information and communication technology is used to collaborate with parents and other partners.</p>	<p>a Municipalities publish clear norms about the number of children per employee and the minimum space per child.</p> <p>b The organization of the activities, collaboration of partners and work division of staff are clear, and they are presented and re-evaluated regularly based on the children's needs.</p> <p>c Children are signed in and out in an organized way, so it is clear how many children are in the leisure center at each time.</p>	<p>a The housing of the leisure center and the outdoor area fulfill the demands of the law on compulsory schools and the law on health and safety at workplaces.</p> <p>b The organization of the housing and of the outdoor area makes provisions for different activities of children.</p> <p>c The premises are accessible to everyone, both indoors and outdoor play areas.</p>	<p>a A diverse selection of ecological and safe material is available.</p> <p>b Material and equipment are regularly reviewed and renewed as needed.</p> <p>c The nearest environment of the leisure center is used to meet the interest, curiosity and challenges of children.</p>