

Fensmark School's sexual policy

Two general purposes:

- To ensure guidelines for how children and adults respectfully treat each other, so that both children and adults' individual boundaries and sexuality are taken into consideration.
- To ensure the framework for the staff's work to develop the children as independent individuals concerning their own sexuality.

Value set

Sexuality is a natural part of all human life, regardless of functional level. We all need close relationships, contact and warmth regardless of age.

At Fensmark School, due to the students' disabilities, a special pedagogical effort is needed in this area as well.

Working with our students, we consider it essential that we, as a school, have sexual politics that can form the basis of common values and rules.

Our approach to sexuality is not only an effort when it is challenging, but is a learning understanding of one's own identity/life development.

Sexuality on the school schedule

According to the Ministry of Education, it is mandatory for all schools to have health and sex education and family education. Students need to acquire the knowledge and skills in the areas of health and well-being – gender, body and sexuality throughout their schooling. That includes, among other things, working with rights, boundaries, friendships, emotions, relationships, identity, puberty, sexuality and sexual rights as well as diversity, family life and reproduction.

Guidelines at Fensmark School

The school emphasises close cooperation with the parents, but when the student has reached the age of 15, the student should, as far as possible, give his/her consent if the parents are to be involved in the student's sexuality.

Guidelines for students

- The student should have an opportunity to develop healthy sexuality with a natural interest in his/her own and the opposite sex with the supervision necessary to ensure that no one's boundaries are overrun.
- As far as is appropriate, the student has the right to private toilet visits, i.e., alone and with the door closed.
- The student has the right to be helped with changing, bathing and toilet visits.
- When the student needs help with personal hygiene, the staff should, through the dialogue with the parents, agree on what specific help is needed and how it is provided.
- Students can have/be boyfriends/girlfriends. They can hold hands, hug and kiss if it is in mutual understanding and does not interfere with teaching situations and other students.
- Students have the right to masturbate and touch their own body when they are alone in the toilet/undisturbed room.

Guidelines for the staff

- The staff helps the school's students, when necessary, with toilets, showers and personal hygiene.
- The staff should be aware of what signals our students send out and how it can be perceived by the outside world.
- The staff should be aware of their own appearance when, for example, dressing and general contact with the students, as it is us who define the boundaries of being together.
- The staff may/must not find themselves in borderline transgressive sexual action and touch from the students.

- The staff is committed to guiding students who are expressing curiosity and interest in bodies and sexuality. If the staff does not feel equipped for this, they are obliged to contact another colleague/counsellor.
- A distinction is made between counselling/education and sexual training. As the school does not form a framework for sexual training, this should be done by/at home (which should only take place when the student has reached the age of 15).
- The staff has a duty to inform the colleagues concerned, immediate supervisor and parents about observations of inappropriate sexual behaviour by the students, as well as to form an action strategy as soon as possible, in collaboration with the school's sexual counsellor.
- The description of and action plan for the students' sexuality should not appear in the student plan. This is written down in a separate document which can only be accessed by the administration, the staff involved and, possibly, the sexual counsellor.
- We ensure a professional approach to the care situation for our students.
- On suspicion that a student has shown abusive behaviour towards others, or that a child has been subjected to sexual abuse, the Fensmark School's contingency plans are followed.

This is how we work with sexual policy at Fensmark School

The sexual policy is revised every two years where it must be approved by the school board. Those responsible for the revision are chosen by the sexual counsellor and the administration, the staff group is involved afterwards.

The school staff reviews the sexual policy once a year at the workshop/FFF.

"Week sex" is a recurring topic-week at Fensmark School, where each team organises the teaching.