



The Education System in Iceland

Glerárskóli Akureyri

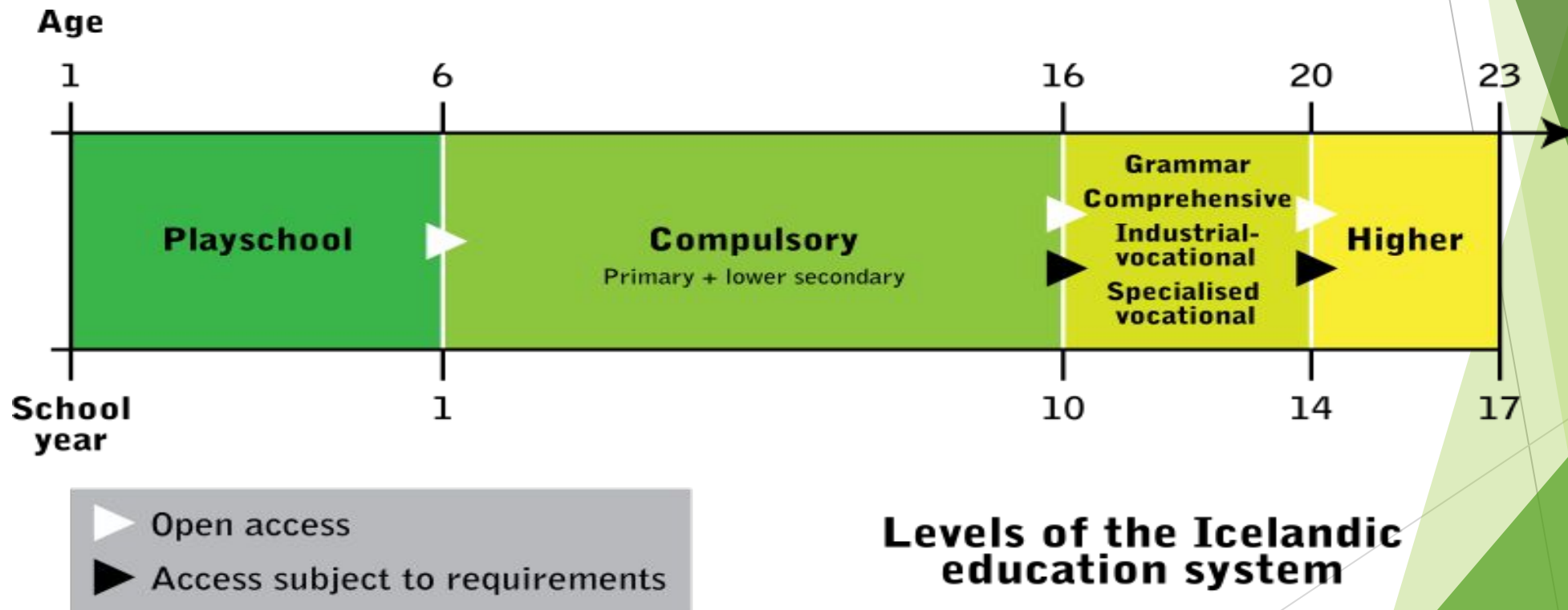


Erasmus+

We All Equal One

Granada Spain, March 2020

The System of Education in Iceland



The System of Education in Iceland - Pre-school (Age 1-5)

- Pre-school (leikskóli) is a non-compulsory education for children under the age of six. It is the first step in the Education System in Iceland
- There are nine pre-schools in Akureyri. They are public schools, run by the municipality, but parents must pay for their kids to attend
- Around 980 students are in pre-schools in Akureyri
- Pre-schools are open from 07:45-16:15 five days a week
- During the summer they close for four weeks

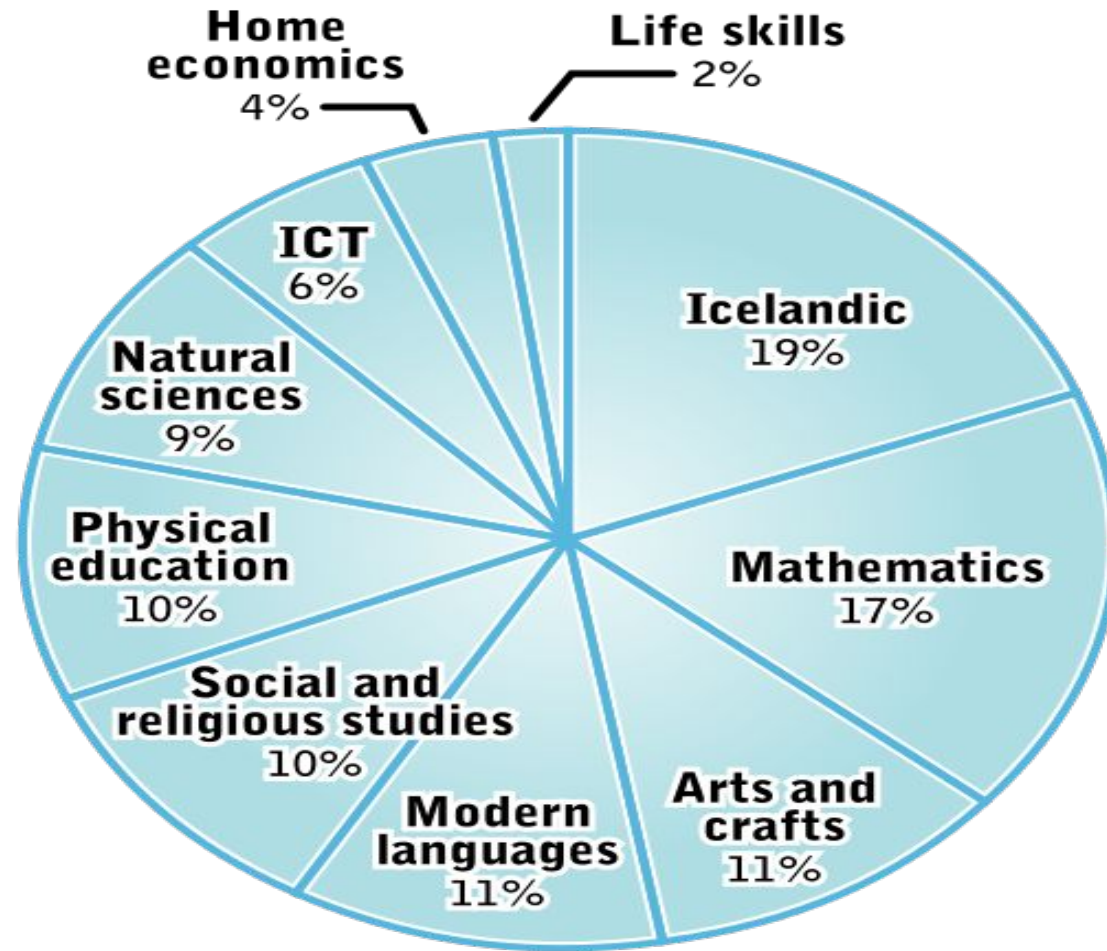


The System of Education in Iceland - Compulsory school (Age 6-16)

- Compulsory school (grunnskóli =“basic school”), is the period of education which is compulsory for all children in Iceland
- The municipalities run the compulsory schools
- The law states that education is mandatory for children and adolescents between the ages of 6 and 16
- The school year lasts nine months, begins around August 21st and ends in the beginning of June every year
- The minimum number of school days per school year is 180



The System of Education in Iceland - Subjects of Compulsory Schools



The division between subjects
in the compulsory education period

Compulsory Schools

Lessons take place five days a week.
Each lesson lasts for 40 minutes.

The number of lessons for each year is as follows:

Years	Age range	Lessons per week
1–4	6–10 years	30
5–7	10–13 years	35
8–10	13–16 years	37

The System of Education in Akureyri - Compulsory School

- ▶ There are 9 compulsory schools in Akureyri, seven situated in town and two out of town
- ▶ Students are around 2800 - 2900
- ▶ Differentiated learning has been mandatory in Iceland for years and all schools in Akureyri use differentiated learning
- ▶ Often, the same teacher teaches students most of the subjects up to 6th or 7th grade
- ▶ Sometimes the same teacher follows the class for 2-4 years
- ▶ Classes are often mixed up between years
- ▶ In Akureyri all students have two sports classes a week and one swimming class



The system of education in Iceland - Upper Secondary Schools (Age 16-19)



- ▶ There are around forty Upper Secondary Schools (framhaldsskóli) in Iceland; 2 of them in Akureyri. Their number of students vary as much as in Primary Schools. The largest Upper Secondary School has over 3,000 students—the smallest, less than fifty. The Upper Secondary Education can be divided like this:
- ▶ grammar schools—offering three-year-long programmes of study, ending with matriculation exams
- ▶ industrial-vocational schools—theoretical and practical courses in various trades
- ▶ comprehensive schools—offering a mixture of courses, has qualities of both a grammar school and an industrial-vocational institution, in addition to specialised vocational programmes
- ▶ specialised vocational schools—programmes of study for specific trades and careers

The System of Education in Iceland - Higher Education (Age from 19)

- ▶ The final level is higher education (háskóli). There are eight such institution in the country, most of which are run by the state.
- ▶ In recent years more universities have opened across the country, widening the range of choices available.
- ▶ Most undergraduates will have to pass some form of matriculation exams to get into university.
- ▶ University of Akureyri is one of them. It was founded in September 1987. The number of students varies around 2000 and members of staff around 200.



Glerárskóli - Akureyri

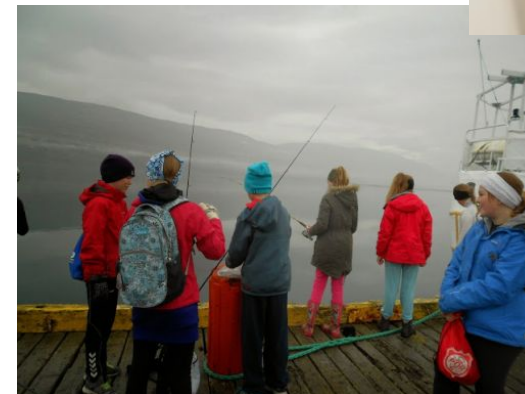


Glerárskóli - Akureyri



Glerárskóli has:

- 35 teachers
- 29 staff members
- 363 students
- 188 boys and 175 girls
- Grade 1 - 10 plus after school activities
- 1 janitor
- 1 secretary
- Library
- Sport area
- Swimming pool
- Big and nicely equipped playground



Glerárskóli - Vision and Mission



- Glerárskóli has a strong vision containing the words: HUGUR - HÖND - HEILBRIGÐI
- In English: MIND - HAND - HEALTH

- Glerárskóli's mission is to introduce to students:
 - healthy living
 - friendship
 - how to be responsible for work and play
 - how to develop good social skills both regarding education and human relationship
 - how to use their minds to keep improving
 - how to work with arts, technology and trade/craft

Glerárskóli - Values

Values:

- Team work
- Positive School Atmosphere
- Clear Vision and Mission
- Emphasis on the Student
- Progress



Glerárskóli - Emphasis

Emphasis:

- Vision and Mission (see before)
- Values (see before)
- Positive Discipline
- Ideology of Olweus against bullying
- To be Ecofriendly
- Outdoor teaching
- Team work
- Reading
- Miscellaneous valuation
- Equality for all



Equality in Glerárskóli



Main issues in the Equality Programme of Glerárskóli are:

- Equal rights and opportunities to work in and go to school
- Equal salaries for both genders
- Equal rights without thinking about:
 - Gender
 - Faith
 - Sexuality
 - Origin
 - Color
 - Disablement



The Equality Programme states that equality is about human rights and the obvious right for all to be equal in spite of our differences

Positive Discipline - Criteria



The Five Criteria For Positive Discipline

- Helps children feel a sense of connection. (**Belonging and significance**)
- Is mutually respectful and encouraging. (**Kind and firm** at the same time.)
- Is effective long - term. (**Considers what the child is thinking, feeling, learning, and deciding** about himself and his world - and what to do in the future to survive or to thrive.)
- Teaches important social and life skills. (**Respect**, concern for others, problem solving, and cooperation as well as the skills to contribute to the home, school or larger community.)
- Invites children to discover how capable they are. (**Encourages the constructive use of personal power** and autonomy.)

Positive Discipline - Tools

The tools and concepts of Positive Discipline include:

- **Mutual respect.** Adults model firmness by respecting themselves and the needs of the situation, and kindness by respecting the needs of the child.
- **Identifying the belief behind the behavior.** Effective discipline recognizes the reasons kids do what they do and works to change those beliefs, rather than merely attempting to change behavior.
- **Effective communication and problem solving skills.**
- **Discipline that teaches** (and is neither permissive nor punitive).
- **Focusing on solutions** instead of punishment.
- **Encouragement** (instead of praise). Encouragement notices effort and improvement, not just success, and builds long-term self-esteem and empowerment.



Traditions in Glerárskóli



Out door teacing- Krossanesborgir



Making Leav bread for Christmas, grades 1. - 4.



Song contest - grades 7. - 10.



Out door teacing- maths

Students in Glerárskóli



The School's play ground



Working together



The whole school
baloon dancing



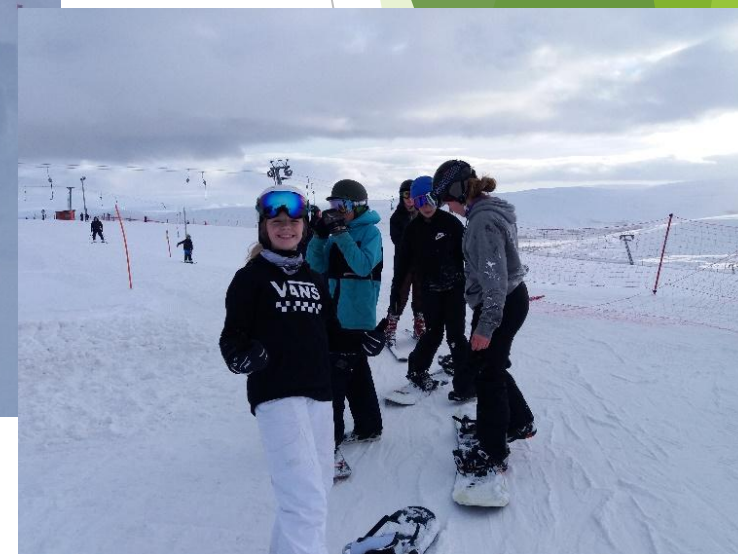
Outdoor teacing - picking berries



Using two or three balls at the
same time



All students and staff go to our ski area once a year. We only have to drive 15 minutes from town up into the mountain.



Home site: www.glerarskoli.is

Facebook: [Glerárskóli](#)

THANK YOU

