

The preschool's ideology

We follow the Reggio Emilia ideology in our work and take advantage of the quality of outdoor teaching. It is the psychologist and ideologist Loris Malaguzzi who is behind the Reggio Emilia ideology. Its main elements include visual education.

We encourage the children to develop all their senses, "their one hundred languages" and creative thinking. The children are encouraged to think and express themselves in the way which comes most naturally to them, that is in visual arts, music or with their bodies. The main thing in Malaguzzi's ideology is that each and every child is unique and that it is itself the main character in its own growth and development.

If one wants to get to know the children, one must also get to know their world. Listen, look at them in an open and enquiring way and get to know their games. We strongly emphasize the game in all its forms. The game is a teaching method of the preschool teacher and the child's way of learning. A free and spontaneous game is the child's normal form of expression. The game is the child's life and work.

In our work the environment is one of the teachers. Outdoor teaching makes the learning more effective. The possibilities in outdoor work are many and the subjects can be approached in a more diverse way. Moving the learning process into an unlimited space offers possibilities for a better understanding, a deeper view of things and a more accurate purpose of what is being done.

The relationship between the teacher and the learner becomes closer. The child comes more into its own in the freedom that nature has to offer rather than in a small room.

Outdoor activities strengthen the child's health in body and soul.

The preschool's organizational structure

The preschool director is responsible for the preschool's educational work and plans it in collaboration with the team, children and parents. The preschool director is responsible for hiring the preschool's staff, delegates projects and is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the preschool.

The preschool teacher/head of department is responsible for the children and the educational work of his/her department and participates in the preschool's goal setting and planning along with other workers.

Instructors work under the guidance of the preschool teacher and follow the guiding light of the preschool's overall goals.

All preschool workers are subject to confidentiality.

School- and welfare services of Árnes Council

Educational consultants work there, speech therapists, psychologists and social workers, to whom the preschool can turn concerning diagnosis and counsel.



Information brochure for parents/custodians

Homepage: www.undraland.is
E-mail: undraland@undraland.is
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Welcome to the preschool!

Preschools operate according to Act of preschools no. 90 from the year 2008. In it is stated that the preschool is the first level of education and is for children under the age of compulsory education. The preschool takes care of the nurturing and education of children, at the request of parents, under the guidance of specially educated people in early childhood education.

In the year 2011 the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture issued a national curriculum for preschools and it is a policy-making manual for the educational work in preschools. It says that the preschool is for all children, regardless of spiritual and physical aptitude, culture or religion.

The goal of the preschool is, among other things, to create a healthy and safe environment for the children which gives them an opportunity to develop spiritually as well as physically and to enjoy their childhood.



Starting preschool

A place in preschool can be applied for at the time of moving into the municipality but the preschool attendance does not commence until the child has received an ID number and its legal domicile has been registered. The preschool can be contacted directly or an application form obtained from the preschool's homepage and sent by e-mail to the preschool director.

The preschool fees are paid afterwards, a payment slip is sent through online banking. Information about preschool fees can be found on the preschool's homepage.

The preschool is open from 7:45 AM until 4:00 PM but the children can stay with us for four to eight hours per day, four or five days per week. When a child starts at the preschool a childcare agreement is made between the preschool and the parents. A mutual term of notice of the agreement is one month. By signing the childcare agreement, parents confirm that they have familiarized themselves with the rates and rules of the preschool.

Before the child commences preschool attendance the parents are called for a reception interview. Parents who do not speak Icelandic have a right to the assistance of an interpreter. When the child then starts its preschool attendance, an allowance is made for an orientation period.

Orientation is based on three days. The children who come from a non-Icelandic language environment



Parental involvement

At the preschool a strong emphasis is placed on building up a good collaboration with all parents with the child's wellbeing as well as the children's group in mind. A parental involvement is established on the basis of equality where parents are specialists in the affairs of their children and preschool teachers are specialists in the learning environment of young children. The strength of the school community includes, among other things, a diverse group of parents. In order to ensure a successful orientation in a new place, the parents and the school must work closely together.

If a child acquires a positive as a provision from home, it is likelier to feel well at school and do better in learning.

A parents' association and a parents' committee are active in the preschool. Their goal is to strengthen the connection between parents and teachers and to



Undraland's slogan is:
Environment - Care
 The staff of the preschool
 aspires to uphold it.