



Welcome to Akureyri!

Welcome to Akureyri Elementary Schools!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to your child in the Elementary schools in Akureyri.

The School Department of Akueyri

The department is located in Glerárgata 26, 1st floor.

The Director of Education is Kristín Jóhannesdóttir e-mail: kristinj@akureyri.is

Through the homepage of the school department,

<https://www.akureyri.is/is/thjonusta/menntun> parents can register their kids into one of the elementary <https://akg.esja.com/form/index.php> (if they already have an ID-Nr. – if not please contact us!).

The school department is the head of all preschools, elementary schools and the Music school of Akureyri.

In Iceland, all children between 6 and 16 are required to attend school. Elementary schools are governed by the municipalities. In Akureyri we have 9 elementary schools. One of them is located on one of the islands of Eyjafjörður, Hrísey and one of them is a special school for kids with some behavioral difficulties. The other seven schools are spread across the town; Brekkuskóli, Giljaskóli, Glerárskóli, Lundarskóli, Naustaskóli, Oddeyrarskóli and Síðuskóli.

In the town of Akureyri the smallest school has about 200 students and the biggest about 500 students.

Children of foreign origin have the right to attend their neighborhood school, but can also apply to attend a different school if they want to, for some reason. It is preferred that your child already has an ID-nr. before it is enrolled into elementary school (but you can still apply even if

you don't have an ID-nr.) In all schools we have students of foreign origin and usually, they are between 10 and 15% of the student population.

Until the year 2012 we had a special department for foreign children in one of the schools. It was a decision of the school board to change that arrangement and from the fall of 2012 all foreign students attend their district school when they arrive.

All students with Icelandic as their second language receive a special help in Icelandic. The Icelandic assistance takes place mostly in the classroom with the youngest kids but in small groups or individually when the students are older.

The first step in your child's school experience, is an introductory meeting at the school. The child's supervising teacher regularly communicates with parents and advises them on how to best assist their child in its studies.

Our web for teachers who teach foreign students is <http://erlendir.akmennt.is> and parents can also often find useful information there.

The first foreign language taught in Iceland is English, usually from grade 5 (10 years – but many schools start earlier) and our second foreign language is Danish, from grade 7 (12 years).

We recommend that our foreign students do not learn Danish, but have Icelandic/native language lessons instead.

When attending upper secondary school/high school – framhaldsskóli - (from 16 – 19 years) students can have their native language evaluated instead of Danish.

Maintenance of the native language

We encourage our students and their parents to use their native language at home and books in all languages are welcome in the schools, e.g., when the students are given time for pleasure reading (sometimes maybe 15 minutes pr. day).

In Reykjavík, foreign parents are having an organization, www.modurmal.com and on their homepage you can find groups for different languages and contact them in your native language through e-mail modurmal@modurmal.com

The main role of the organization is to offer teaching in the members native language.



After school care

All schools in Akureyri offer after school care for kids in grade one to four. It's open after school time and until 16:15.

Parents must sign an agreement in which they confirm what days/hours their child is attending after school care. If parents want to change the agreement, they have to let the school know before the 15th of each month before the change is supposed to take place. Parents pay for minimum 20 hours pr. month, 8.460 krónur, (Jan. 2022).

School lunch

All the schools offer hot meal at lunch time. The menu is to be found on the schools' homepages. The menu is constructed in cooperation with the national health care system. Usually, we have fish twice a week, meat, or some meat dishes twice a week and soup, yogurt or some light meal once a week. Vegetables and fruits are always available.

Twice a month meat course is exchanged with some vegetable's dishes.

The price for one semester (August – December /Jan.-May) is around 44.000 iskr. – or 489 kr. each meal (price from the 1st of January 2022).

Schedule of the school year

We have 180 days in the school year. School usually starts around August 20th and the last day of the school year is in the beginning of June. Each school organizes the schedule of the school year as it best suits the needs of the school, including these 180 days. The school can mark ten special schooldays on the schedule shown with a different color. These ten days can e.g. include interviews with parents, ski day or other outdoor activities, first and last days of the school year, which are usually shorter than normal days etc.

All schools have two short brakes each year, usually in October and in February/March. During the school year teachers have five days to plan and organize their teaching. These days are also marked with a special color in the school calendar and then the kids have the day off, but the after-school care is open, at least in the afternoon.

Lessons per week

Students in grade one to four have thirty 40 minute lessons per week, in grade five to seven there are 35 lessons per week and from grade eight to ten there are 37 lessons per week. Each school can change the extent of the lessons, but overall every student is having the same number of lessons per week each school year.

Beginning literacy – an interactive approach

Beginning literacy, used in most schools of Akureyri, is a teaching method aimed towards teaching basic reading to young children. The main incentive of Beginning literacy is that children will become well adapted at reading as early as possible in their academic career. Foreign parents are supposed to place importance on reading for their children and encourage them to read in their own, native language. The better a child knows it's native tongue, the easier it becomes to grasp a new language. Further information: <http://erlendir.akmennt.is/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/enska.pdf>

Elective subjects for older students

Students in grade eight to ten can choose three to four subjects from a list of diverse subjects, the schools are offering. They are encouraged to go through all possibilities, think about them and find out what subjects they really want to deal with the following winter. The school's endeavor is to have as much variety in the subjects as they can, in their attempts to meet as many different wishes from the students as possible.

Some of the subjects are located in other schools and then students have to go to some other school to take part. We see that as an opportunity to get to know other schools and meet other students.

Most of the elective subjects are taught in the end of the school day.

From elementary school to high school (framhaldsskóli) chances of flexibility

Most students go from elementary to high school after ten years. But if the results from the Standardized Tests in grade nine show an excellent competence of the student, parents can wish for earlier entrance to high school (that's from grade nine). It is the principal of the elementary school who is responsible for the decision and evaluation of the competence of the student when he graduates from the elementary school.

The culture of the schools

In all the primary schools the focus is on wellbeing of every individual.

Teachers are in touch with parents through the net, especially the website, <http://mentor.is> All parents and students can have access to the web, by using their ID number and a password they are given from the school, and it is a necessity for parents to check the page for messages from the teachers.

Parents are always welcome in the school, without notice. They can just drop in and stay for a few minutes or as long as they wish. Some teachers prefer to know beforehand when parents are planning to visit.

Usually there is not much homework, except in reading in the first grades, but here we have a little difference between schools and teachers. The amount of homework also depends on how well the students use their time in school – if they can't follow up with the plan in the lessons, often they must finish at home. But if they work hard enough, they can finish the work at school. In general, we can say that teachers are putting less emphasis on homework now than before, but we encourage parents to follow up with the homework of their children and discuss with the teachers if they want some more homework.

Teachers generally emphasize aspects such as cooperation, activity, and creativity in students work and sometimes the classrooms can look a bit chaotic when you come to a visit. All students go swimming once a week and we have sports twice a week.

We also put emphasis on art and craft and the students learn to sew and knit, cook etc.

Sport and Leisure Subsidy-2022

The town of Akureyri provides a sport- and leisure subsidy for all children and teenagers born in the years from 2005 to and including 2016.

Everyone that has their lawful domicile in Akureyri can claim this subsidy. It can be used from 1. of January until 31. of December each year. The amount of the subsidy is up to 40.000 krónur per child (can vary from one year to another).

Parents can spend the subsidy to pay for various kinds of sports activities, for music- and art schools and for shorter courses and workshops, (further information can be found in the folder on the subject from the elementary schools). The subsidy can also be used as a partial payment for summer camps.

When parents pay for their children's sport- and leisure activities they have to give notice if they want to utilize the subsidy as part of the payment. It will subsequently be subtracted from the total amount due.

Regulations about children playing outside in the evenings

From first of September until first of May:

Kids, 12 years and younger are not supposed to play outside after 20:00

Kids from 13 – 16 are not supposed to play outside after 22:00

From first of May until first of September:

Kids 12 years and younger are not supposed to play outside after 22:00

Kids from 13 – 16 are not supposed to play outside after 24:00



Brekkuskóli

Tel: 414-7900

homepage: www.brekkuskoli.is

e-mail: brekkuskoli@akureyri.is

Principal:

Jóhanna María Agnarsdóttir, johannamaria@akureyri.is

Heads of departments:

Sigríður Magnúsdóttir, siggamagg@akmennt.is

Aðalheiður Bragadóttir, heidab@akmennt.is

Project Manager, Icelandic as a second language:

Halla Tulinius, hallat@akmennt.is

Secretary:

Steingerður Zophoníasdóttir (Denna), steingerdur@akmennt.is

After school care:

Aðalbjörg Steinarsdóttir (Ally), ally@akmennt.is

Important!

Please let us know every day your child is not attending school, due to sickness or some other reasons we must know about.



Giljaskóli

Tel: 462-4820

homepage: www.giljaskoli.is

e-mail: giljaskoli@akureyri.is

Principal:

Head of departments:

Vala Stefánsdóttir, vala@akmennt.is

Helga Rún Traustadóttir, helgarun@akmennt.is

Project manager, Icelandic as a second language:

Ragnheiður Ásta Einarsdóttir, ragnheidura@akmennt.is

Secretary:

Elín Eyjólfsdóttir, ellae@akmennt.is

After school care:

Elín Eyjólfsdóttir, ellae@akmennt.is

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Glerárskóli

Tel: 461-2666

e-mail: glerskoli@akureyri.is

Homepage: www.glerskoli.is

Principal:

Eyrún H. Skúladóttir, eyrun@akmennt.is

Head of departments:

Helga Halldórsdóttir, helgah@akmennt.is

Tómas Lárus Vilbergsson, lalli@akmennt.is

Project manager, Icelandic as a second language:

Fríða Pétursdóttir, fridap@akmennt.is

Secretary:

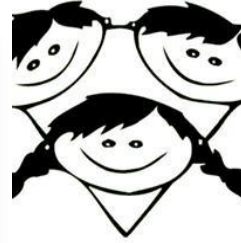
Brynja Sigurðardóttir, brynja@akmennt.is

Afterschool care:

Heiða Hrönn Theodórsdóttir, heidahronn@akmennt.is

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Lundarskóli

e-mail: lundarskoli@akureyri.is

Homepage: www.lundarskoli.is

Principal:

Elías Gunnar Þorbjörnsson, elias@akmennt.is

Head of departments:

Maríanna Ragnarsdóttir, marianna@akmennt.is

Fjóla Dögg Gunnarsdóttir, fjolad@akmennt.is

Project Manager, Icelandic as a second language:

Sigrún Kristín Jónsdóttir, sigrunj@akmennt.is

Secretary:

María Arngrímsdóttir, ma@akmennt.is

Afterschool care:

Þórunn S. Þórðardóttir thorunnsoffia@akmennt.is

Important!

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Naustaskóli

Tel: 4604100

e-mail: naustaskoli@akureyri.is

Homepage: www.naustaskoli.is

Principal:

Bryndís Björnsdóttir, dis@akmennt.is

Head of departments:

Aðalheiður Skúladóttir, allas@akmennt.is

Margrét Rún Karlsdóttir, mrk@akmennt.is

Project manager, Icelandic as a second language:

Kristín M. Gísladóttir: kristing@akmennt.is

Secretary:

Kristjana Sigurgeirsdóttir, kristjana@akmennt.is

Afterschool care:

Hrafnhildur Stefánsdóttir, hrafnhildurst@akmennt.is

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Oddeyrarskóli

Tel: 460-9550

e-mail: oddeyrarskoli@akureyri.is

Homepage: www.oddeyrarskoli.is

Principal:

Anna Bergrós Arnarsdóttir, aber@akmennt.is

Head of departments:

Fjóla Kristín Helgadóttir, fk@akmennt.is

Margrét Th. Aðalgeirsdóttir, maggath@akmennt.is

Project manager, Icelandic as a second language:

Lína Dögg Halldórsdóttir, linadogg@akmennt.is

Secretary:

Kristín Hallgrímsdóttir, kh@akmennt.is

Afterschool care:

Sigrún Gunnarsdóttir, sigrungu@akmennt.is

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Síðuskóli

Tel: 462-2588

e-mail: siduskoli@akureyri.is

Homepage: www.siduskoli.is

Principal:

Ólöf Inga Andrédóttir, olofi@akmennt.is

Head of departments:

Marías B. Kristjánsson, mbk@akmennt.is

Helga Lyngdal Þorsteinsdóttir, helgal@akmennt.is

Project manager, Icelandic as a second language:

Sigrún Helga Sveinbjörnsdóttir, sigrunhelga@akmennt.is

Secretary:

Svava Svavarsdóttir, svava@akureyri.is

Afterschool care:

Gyða Fanney Guðjónsdóttir, gfg@akmennt.is

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Hlíðarskóli

Tel: 414-7980

e-mail: hlidarskoli@akureyri.is

Homepage: www.hlidarskoli.akureyri.is

Principal:

Valdimar Heiðar Valsson, valdimar@akmennt.is



Hríseyjarskóli

Tel: 466-1763

e-mail: hrisey@centrum.is

Homepage: www.hriseyjarskoli.is

Principal:

Pórunn B. Arnórsdóttir, thorarno@akmennt.is

