

Principles of the School Board

Contents

Preface	1
Vision, mission and values	2
Vision	2
Mission	2
Values	2
Lolland Kommune's values	3
What is a principle?	4
School culture and operation of the school	6
School-home-community collaboration	8
Student wellbeing initiatives	10
Evaluation of principles	11

Preface

This document will be updated after new principles have been developed and adopted by the school board. The first two were published in January 2023 and more will be added throughout the year.

Vision, mission and values

Vision

In partnership with the students, parents, employees, and school board: we will provide high quality, bilingual education for international and internationally minded families.

Mission

We are a public school... where every person is seen, heard, and respected as a unique human being. We provide quality education in a Danish setting. We provide a safe and healthy learning environment where freedom, equity, ethics and democracy are not only an objective but are also visibly rooted in our pedagogical practices. We challenge all students to have the courage to try and to fail so that they can learn from the experience.

We are an international school... that values diversity, and respects all cultures and lifestyles. All are a hub for families and welcome everyone that share our international mindset. We provide a balanced, interconnected, international and national curriculum. We support all students so that they can progress academically, creatively and socially. We believe students can reach their full potential and become compassionate, active global citizens.

We are a community school... that thinks globally but acts locally through connecting with the local community in innovative, sustainable projects. We will trust each other and look after the health and well-being of ourselves, and those around us. We will foster the students' academic and learning skills and prepare them for further study and careers in Denmark and abroad.

Values

Our school values are an integral part of who we are and that we believe are important. Values have a major influence on a person's behavior and attitude. Every day and every moment they serve as broad guidelines in all situations in guiding us in the choices we make and the actions we take.

Community - 'sharing, working and learning together'. We are diverse people linked by a common perspective, engaging in joint action to make a positive difference.

Resilience - 'we are brave when faced with challenges'. We work hard, take care of ourselves and those around us, and bounce back from failure.

Curiosity - 'being interested and engaged in learning new things'. Using our thinking skills to be creative and critical.

Lolland Kommune's values

As a school community, we embrace a partnership of lifelong learning to be able to contribute as a global citizen in the community and in the future complex and changing world.

Lolland International School works on the basis of Lolland Municipality's four overall values: competence, fairness, trust and openness.

[Read more about the values of Lolland Municipality \(lolland.dk\)](https://lolland.dk)

Furthermore, the school works on the basis of the municipality's coherent children's policy and general strategies in the school area.

[Read more about schools and education in Lolland Municipality \(lolland.dk\)](https://lolland.dk)

What is a principle?

Principles are a collection of basic ideas that contain the envisioned direction of the school.

They should be concisely formulated and spacious enough that new needs and situations can fit in without having to change the principle. They must provide room to choose between several specific options when the principle is to be put into practice and should be referred to as a guide, rather than a dictation.

(Source: Ministry of Education)

The Folkeskole Act (section 44, subsection 2) states a number of areas on which the school board must create principles.

Principles could include:

- The organisation of the teaching, including the students' teaching hours at each grade level, the length of the school day, supportive teaching, team building, provision of electives, special education at the school and the students' placement in classes.
- The school's work with students' development in the school's academic and social settings
- The right to fulfill the teaching obligation by participating in the teaching in the municipal music school or by performing elite sports in a sports association.
- Informing the home about the students' benefit from the teaching
- Distribution of work among teachers
- Collaborations, including partnerships with the local community (open school)
- Respectively the responsibility of the school and the parents in the school-home collaboration.
- Joint events for students during school hours, camp school stays, deployment in internships, etc.
- Activities of the after-school care scheme

Based on this, the School Board has chosen to formulate a number of principles and group them under three main themes. These themes include all the above points and some additional points important to the School Board of Lolland International School:

- School culture and organisation
- School-home-community collaboration
- Student wellbeing initiatives

The School Board's principles for Lolland International School must support the school's mission, vision and values, must help to connect the school's goals and values to the outside world, and must guide the school's day-to-day management of the school's activities.

School culture and operation of the school

Principle for healthy habits

Adopted by the school board on 24 January 2023

Purpose

The purpose of a principle for healthy habits is to create the best possible setting for students' learning and well-being.

Goal

It is important for the children's wellbeing that they move, eat healthy and drink water during the school day. Active and healthy students function well physically, mentally, and socially.

School responsibility

In all classes, health should be a topic of discussions during a school year, both in class with the students and among the parents at parent meetings.

The school should encourage healthy habits and active lifestyles and include activities that work towards this throughout the school year.

The school provides a guideline for parents in cooperation with Lolland Kommune Health Sector.

Parent responsibility:

It is the parents' responsibility that their children bring healthy and nutritious lunches to school.

Lolland International School recommends that parents consider healthy alternatives to sweets and cakes in lunch boxes.

Student responsibility

Older students can take responsibility to ensure they eat a balanced diet.

Unhealthy foods and energy drinks are not to be consumed at school.

Success criteria for this principle

Happy, active, healthy students in well-functioning classrooms. Observe smart choices in lunch boxes and the absence of undesired items from older students.

Related documents:

- *Healthy Eating Guide: School lunch and nutrition*
- *Student wellbeing policy*

School-home-community collaboration

Principle for communication

Adopted by the school board on 24th January 2023

Purpose

To have clear, necessary, culturally aware communication and cooperation between the school and home, and between pupil to pupil.

Goal

The communication experience between school and home, should be open, appreciative, and respectful.

Aula is the medium of written communication between school and home.

Messages should be short and clear, with a positive tone. Messages are answered as quickly as possible both from parents and from the school's staff.

Parents should contact the subject teacher for specific subject related questions. All other enquiries should be directed to the class teachers.

If an answer cannot be given immediately, receipt will be acknowledged with notification of a later answer. It is not always possible to respond on the same day you contact the school, but this will happen as soon as possible within the employee's working hours.

If parents need to speak to a teacher or pedagogue in person, they can write a message about this on AULA and ask for a meeting or request a phone call.

If it's urgent - contact the school office.

School responsibility

Yearly plans and weekly plans are posted on Aula/Meebook.

Personal, well-being concerns or the like, will be given priority.

The school's management ensures that all the school's employees are familiar with the principles of the school's communication with students, employees, and parents.

All employees are familiar communication protocols, bullying action plans, and mandatory reporting procedures.

Parent responsibility

Parents are encouraged to check Aula for messages daily, and the week-plans at least once a week.

Parents are expected to keep themselves informed about their child's schooling, including conversations with their child.

The parents inform the school if there are significant circumstances in the family that might have an impact on the student's education.

Parents who are dissatisfied (or satisfied) with conditions surrounding their child's schooling make first contact with the class teacher or subject teacher with a view to solving the problem.

If a solution is not found in this way, the parents can contact the school management.

If the complaint is about the head of school, the parent should contact the chair of the board.

If the complaint is in relation to the principles laid down by the school board, or have a specific case they want taken to the board, the parents should contact a member of the school board.

Student responsibility

It can be expected that students from Grade 6 take responsibility for following their homework through Aula/Meebook.

Students should speak and communicate with their peers, and teachers in a respectful, appropriate, and culturally sensitive way.

Success criteria for this principle

A well-functioning exchange of ideas and information between school and home. Communication goes to the right people, with the right tone and with minimal misunderstandings.

Related documents:

- *Complaints policy*
- *ICT Acceptable Use policy*
- *Code of conduct*

Student wellbeing initiatives

Evaluation of principles

The school board supervises whether the principles are complied with in practice in this way:

1. Once a year, the school principal prepares a short written report on how the principles are been complied with in practice. It is sent out to the school board before the penultimate board meeting in the school year.
2. At the penultimate board meeting of a school year, the school principal reviews how the principles have become complied with in practice and the board comments on this.
3. The Board of Directors discusses and decides whether there is a need to change the principles. If this is needed a proposal for this is prepared, which is discussed and adopted at the following board meeting (the last board meeting in a school year)
4. A summary of the supervision is prepared, which is posted on the website and Aula.

In addition, the board can take up a principle for an occasional supervision if a specific event (e.g. a parental complaint) draws the attention of the school board to a particular issue.