

GROWTH & PROSPERITY



The Policy for Learning, Growth and Prosperity 2021

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Preface

We see learning and growth as prerequisites for each other. Children and youths cannot learn without prospering and thriving. They prosper and thrive as they learn. Ensuring that children and youngsters mature into capable adults and competent citizens is a responsibility we all share.

In The Municipality of Silkeborg we have a number of factors, which enable our children and young people to learn and prosper. Our starting point is their talent and potential. Parents are regarded as important partners with their many resources. We benefit greatly from competent and professional employees and leaders. The contribution of active citizenship in the form of volunteers and a busy economic life plays its part too. Seen collectively, these factors give Silkeborg a strong foundation, and oblige us to be ambitious, when setting goals and aims for the children and young people of the present and future.



The main focus of The Policy for Learning and Growth 2021 is aimed at helping children and young people between the ages of 0-18 to learn and prosper, and its target year is 2021. The Policy of Coherence for Children and Young People on the other hand, describes a mindset of fundamental values and beliefs, and focuses specifically on inclusion.

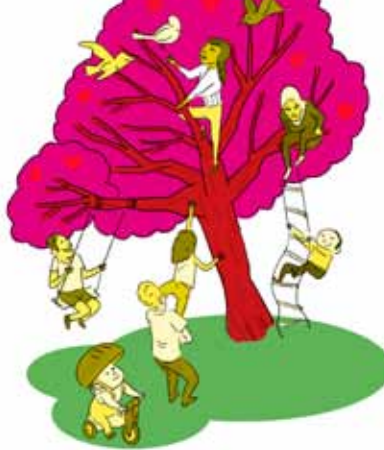
The Policy contains four specific themes: Learning, Growth and prosperity, Co-operation and Framework. Together, these themes constitute our proposal for creating the best possible learning and growth in The Municipality of Silkeborg. The Policy is concise and gives an overview, because the main objective is its subsequent conversion into action. When the reader comes across a “we” in the text, it represents all the adults concerned with the children and young people.

We want to give all our children and youths a good life – it’s our shared obligation to fulfill that wish!

The Committee for Children and Young People,
November 2012



Learning



Aim

Each and every child and young person should meet a challenge

Reasons

- Children and young people learn most, when met with fitting challenges
- Children and young people have the right to display their full potential
- The foundation for children and young people's learning and growth is laid during the early years

By the year 2021

Children and youngsters will require more knowledge in the future. Our goal therefore, is that the competences of children and young people in our Municipality, when measured by diverse criteria, are substantially higher than the nationwide average. Another goal is that 95% of pupils in a particular year go on to take a juvenile education. To enable children and young people to be ready to meet the challenges of the world around them, we are aspiring to be innovative in

such diverse fields as Information Technology, Culture and Foreign Language Teaching, commencing while the kids are still very young.

Each child and youngster must retain their innate inquisitiveness of their surroundings, as well as their desire to learn. This will happen, when they feel involved in the process of learning, and feel that they are an important part of differing communities. Being invited to put questions to their surroundings is the route to thinking creatively and finding new solutions.

We have a shared understanding of learning, where play is a vital component in children's ability to learn and prosper. Learning is an active process for the person who wants to learn. We provide children and youngsters with the space and environment to learn. Working together with other children and youths, parents, professional adults and volunteers – both physically and virtually – makes learning possible.

It is necessary to develop and enhance the task of working with our children and youngsters, so we can make better and more flexible use of their resources. By utilizing research into well documented and successful teaching practices, we can develop our own view of how best to learn. To help us present children and youngsters with the challenges they need, the professionals share their knowledge and improve their own expertise.



Growth and Prosperity

Aim

Every young child and young person has good friends

Reasons:

- Friendships with other children and young people facilitate growth and development
- Having friends and participating in differing communities is vital for the individual, as well as for preserving and upholding of our democratic society
- Children and young people that are happy and content are able to learn

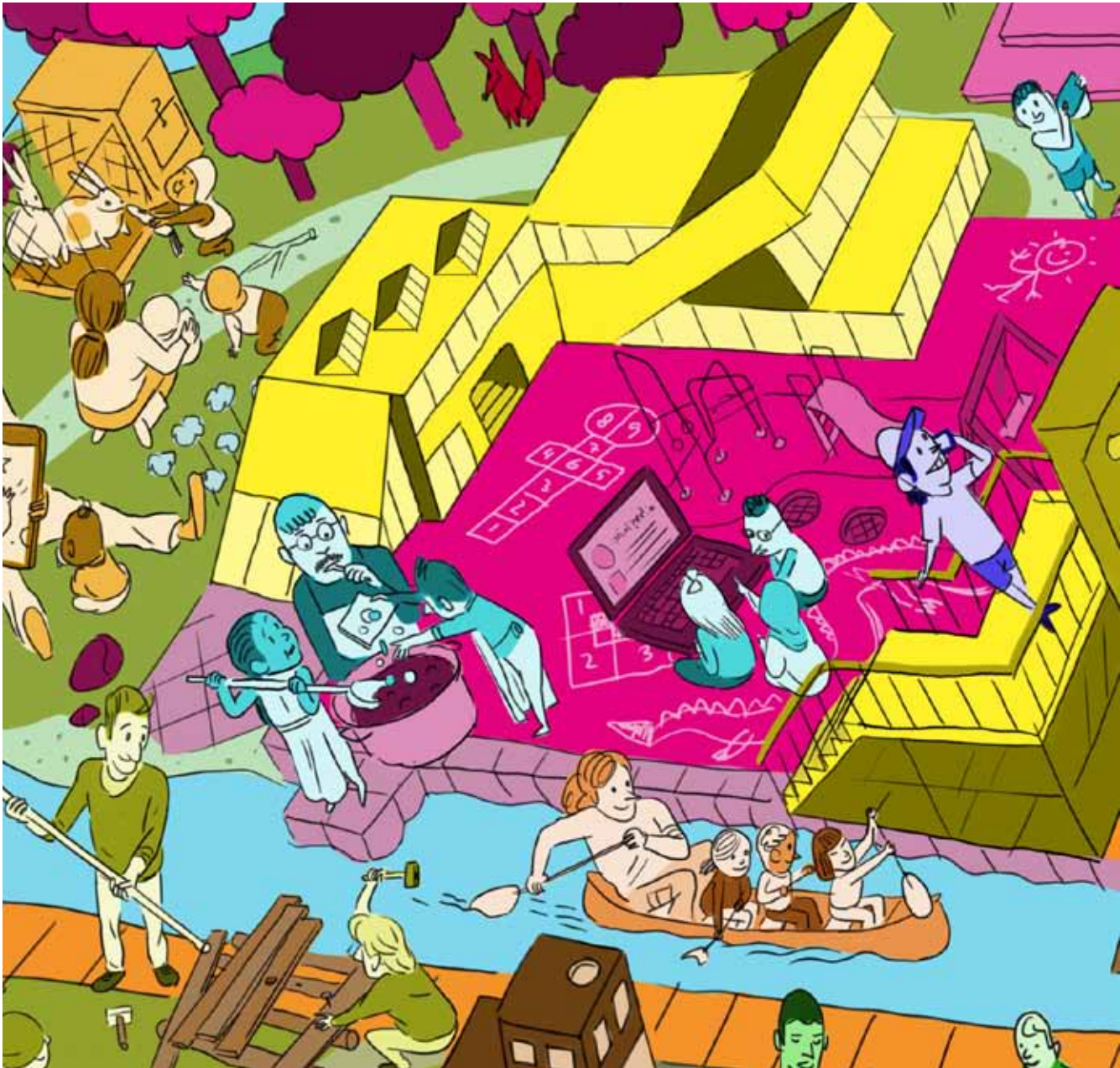
By the year 2021

Each child and young person has the right to feel secure and feel a part of meaningful and supportive communities. This will give them the energy necessary to involve themselves in the ever changing world around them. Our aim therefore, is that all of our children and young people be met with positive expectations, and receive help and advice when needed.

Children and young people differ. We will appreciate and recognize the uniqueness of each individual as an asset. Both parents and professionals have a particular responsibility to encourage our youngsters to play an active role in our communities.

There is a positive and substantial link between physical activity, learning and growth. Physical activity and a healthy lifestyle are contributory factors, if children and young people are going to develop, prosper and thrive. Our aim is that every child and youth forms healthy habits. Their surroundings must encourage physical movement and activity, and professional adults must make sure that healthy food and physical activity becomes part of the everyday routine.





Co-operation



Aim

Adults, children and youngsters take responsibility together

Reasons:

- Parents are the key, if children and young people are to learn and prosper
- Professionals and parents working together help develop and encourage the development of children and youngsters
- Children and youths must learn to be valuable citizens and to play an active role in society

By the year 2021

What The Municipality of Silkeborg offers, builds on the foundation that our young people have received in their homes. The child or youth, the parents and the professionals are involved in a constant dialogue with each other on common as well as individual goals and aims for learning and prospering. Children and juveniles are encouraged to take part in planning their day, having an influence, and experiencing what it means to take responsibility.

There are many unexplored possibilities in the interplay between parents, professionals, volunteers and youths. We have to make possible and rethink ways in which parents and volunteers can contribute to the core task of learning and prospering.

We wish to take our offers of daycare and school out into the community, and bring the community into the world of daycare and education. This will happen when many differing players, such as cultural institutions, educational institutions, sports clubs and facilities and the world of business work together.

We listen to the world around us, and together with parents and children and young people create offers that reflect their varied wishes and needs. That is the reason the spectrum of offers is wide, varied and covers different segments.



Framework for learning, growth and co-operation



Aim

Children and young people experience a framework that supports and encourages a life where they can thrive

Reasons

- We think holistically and dare to look for new approaches
- Rules, structures and habits must not hinder the growth and learning of children and young people
- What we do serves to improve learning, growth and prosperity

By the year 2021

We think holistically, with a specific focus on the co-operation between daycare and schools. Children and youths have the right to enjoy a common effort, which has the child or youth as its pivotal point of reference. Professionals across the board of organizations and trades can contribute where necessary.

We support a culture, where both employees and leaders are focused on innovation. Therefore, we experiment and find new routes to coherence. We develop and test new ways of attending to our core objective, and we learn by the acts of doing and evaluating.

The adults that help children and young people to grow, learn and prosper are willing to challenge ingrown habits and customs, if they get in the way of this process.

Professionals must have the possibility of furthering their education, so they can accomplish their core task in the best possible way, learn new approaches to the task and experience their professionalism be challenged and stimulated. Professionals create networks within their own fields, as well as across borders of professions and trades. It is important that these networks reach out to the world around us, but we can also learn from each other on a smaller scale within the local workplace.



 Silkeborg Kommune



<http://www.laeringogtrivsel.silkeborgkommune.dk>