


Expert group on quality in education and training

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 NORWAY

Timeline

2021 **Completed**

ID number 41534

Background

Since 2017, Statistics Norway and the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training have published school contribution indicators for primary and upper secondary schools. The learners' family background and previous results explain much of the difference in the learners' learning achievements. The school contribution indicators give an overview of the school's contribution to learning.

Compared to other countries, there are relatively small social differences related to learning outcomes in Norway. At the same time, there is a systematic connection in Norway between social background and school results, student grades. School is the most important tool for giving all children, regardless of background, opportunities to live an independent life. An inclusive school, with high quality teaching, is crucial for preserving small differences in Norwegian society. It is therefore important to ensure that any negative impact of student backgrounds on school results is as small as possible in the future.

Objectives

The objective is to define measures to reduce the impact the learner's gender, background and previous school results may have for future benefits of education.

Description

The Ministry of Education and Research established an expert group to investigate how schools may raise education quality. The expert group has to suggest measures to reduce the impact that the learner's gender, social background and previous learning outcomes may have for the benefits of education. The expert group is to explore how school owners and schools can better conduct a systematic quality development approach to increase the education quality, reaching better learning results.

The work is to be conducted in two parts: the first part consist of creating a knowledge base, and the second is a dialogue with school owners, school leaders and teachers, to receive input for the future measures. The expert group has to describe and estimate the financial, administrative and legal consequences of the suggested measures. The expert group has also to propose measures that can be implemented without additional financial

costs.

2021 Completed

The expert group report was published on 4 May 2021 and provided recommendations for the national government, school owners and school leaders. The Ministry of Education and Research received valuable information for future improvements in education quality, both in general and vocational education. The recommendations are measures to reduce the impact that the learner's gender, social background and previous learning outcomes can have on the benefits of education.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Research (KD)

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices

Entities providing VET

VET providers (all kinds)

Thematic categories

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

Subsystem

IVET

Further reading

[Expert group website](#)

[Report of the expert group](#)

“ ... ” Cite as

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). Expert group on quality in education and training: Norway. In Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). *Timeline of VET policies in Europe* (2025 update) [Online tool].

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/41534>