

# Why are we learning when we don't get grades?

**Schülerantwort:** It is important for children to socialize and to have room for failing. They should learn by having fun and not having teachers being too strict.

The teachers or the school system should arrange equal possibility for learning.

When you do a task, the teachers should give a good feedback and critic instead of one number. They should also look on the whole schooling process, from when you start the first year to when you are done in school.

**Schülerantwort:** In Norway, we have a strong feeling of unity and community. This is reflected in the school system, where we have a type of community-school. We learn together and we learn from each other.

Primary schooling has two primary objectives, one is to learn children knowledge, the other is to socialize the children with each other. Schools should represent society, and therefore we strive for a school where all children have the same opportunities.

**Schülerantwort:** The importance of learning is that we should actually learn something and not be measured based on how good we are. As students, it seems that not getting grades has worked well. Despite the fact that we don't get grades, the teachers still give us good criticism on what we need to improve.

**How is it to go with other students who struggles?** It is not noticed very much, and the students usually receive very good provision. In addition, it creates diversity and the pupils concerned feel included. Despite the fact that they receive good accommodation, great emphasis is still placed on them being with us as much as possible.

**Schülerantwort:** Because our learning system is based on working from feedback, instead of chasing grades. It causes a change of focus so that people concentrate more on increasing their knowledge.

The reason of why Norwegian children is put in the same school is because children and young people share a common knowledge, culture and values based on common practical experiences and skills. Education in a common school for all helps to counteract social differences.

The Norwegian primary and secondary school contemplated to provide pupils with participation in a social, academic and cultural community and with opportunities for development based on the individual's abilities and individual differences. The purpose is to provide comprehensive life preparation that prepares pupils for lifelong learning and future

employment in the family, the labor market and in society. Education shall contribute to a good connection between theoretical and practical knowledge and be recognized as being of a fundamentally equal quality throughout the country.

Instead of creating a dedicated system designed to gradually remove "bad" students, this system was designed to encourage co-operation among students, both to improve performance of the "bad" students as well as to teach students to collaborate, despite one being more intellectually advanced than the other. Customization based on students' abilities and prerequisites needs to be included in all aspects of the school's activities and create an inclusive school.

Planning for pupils with special needs is prioritized. These students receive constant supervision so that regardless of their disabilities, these students will be able to complete the education system like everyone else. To ensure they have equal opportunities.

**Schülerantwort:** Are grades necessary? A school is an environment to learn, and the main driving force behind learning shouldn't be a grade, but learning. As a culture and a people, we believe that students shouldn't be under too much pressure throughout the learning process, as this is believed to inhibit people's skills and or grades.

The fact that we do not get grades in Norway can also be countered with the question "Why do you get grades in Germany?" Is there a positive, observable effect that can be confirmed to come from seeing your grades? We believe that by getting grades it creates nothing good for the student and produces needless pressure, I therefore ask, what good comes from getting grades?

As a people, we believe that grades are unnecessary, and create rather troublesome problems, such as being afraid to be wrong, or being afraid to ask questions, getting a bad grade can also negatively affect a student's relationship with their teacher, and they don't help prepare you for later in life. Grades as a concept are a detriment on the social, and national scale.

Grades as a concept also don't provide any value to good students, and only exist in order to suppress "bad" students, and inhibit their way of life, and make them more prone to truancy. Grades as a system may have been established to achieve something good or innocent, but in today's society, it continually proves to have no positive effect.

A major part of the Norwegian culture is the tall poppy syndrome, which states that successful people get criticized, it is normal in Norway to not share your inner happenings to others, and this also applies to grades. By not promoting numerical, or perceivable grades, we can in theory, and practice reduce the number of comparisons done, and hopefully increase unity as a people.

I believe that culturally, Norway, and Greater Scandinavia are of the few places in the world that you could apply this sort of system and have it not negatively affect the learning capabilities of the students. Norway and Germany are both Germanic in nature, but Norway

is inherently different, be it socially, economically, or academically. I do not believe that with the way other countries societies are structured that the Norwegian model could be applied elsewhere.

**Schülerantwort:** In Norway, everyone has equal oppurtunities regardless of their family's economy or social status. In our school we learn to make each other better and learn from each other. Separating people based on their skills creates a divided society with clear borders, and this is not something we value. We do not get graded for our work until 8th grade, but we are still motiviated to learn because we want to improve, succeed and get the job of our dreams. Our teachers are creative with our tasks and motivates us to do our best. We also use computers for a lot of our work which results in tons of different ways to solve a task. We can for example make videos, fancy and innovative presentations as well as highly infomative mind maps to help us remember what we have learned.