



Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures

## **Complementary information to the school section in your Welcome to Sweden handbooks**

The Swedish school system is rather different to many others around the world. It is built around the philosophy that students have to take responsibility for themselves and are provided with the freedom to do so. So you will be given a lot of freedom and in return you are expected to show that you are worth the trust teachers put into you. So in the beginning school might seem less structured than in your country but you will see that the learning methods are working in a different way.

In school you will be expected to show up for classes as scheduled. If you do not teachers might not ask you directly why you have been late, but it will be registered in a system. Your absence will then automatically be reported to AFS or/and you host family.

The Swedish school system offers many different courses and Swedish pupil can freely choose what types of course they will go. For you that does unfortunately not apply. AFS together with the school will choose the program you will go in beforehand. We will try to match your interests with the program of course and some of you will be able to try out new subjects.

Some of you will be able to get your exchange year in Sweden acknowledged as a regular school year in his/her home country. However, this procedure is not established in the Swedish school system. Hence the following will apply for you in your host school:

### **At the end of the school year, your school will gladly provide to you with:**

- A written statement on a school headed paper, signed by the school principal or vice principal, stating the period of attendance, subjects and evaluation of students performance during the school year. This can be given to you upon enquiry.
- A detailed course description that students provide themselves to the school can be signed by teachers or contact person in school, if asked.

**Your school is not required to give you official grades for your school performance.**