# **Education Act Chapter 12:**

# All students have the right to a safe and good school environment that promotes health, inclusion, well-being, and learning.

There is zero tolerance for bullying in schools. It is the students' own experience of how they feel at school that is decisive.

#### The school must ensure that all students feel safe and well at school!

Everyone working at the school must monitor that the students are doing well. If an adult at the school knows – or believes – that a student is being bullied, harassed, or otherwise not doing well, they must always:

- Intervene and stop the harassment immediately, if possible
- Inform the principal
- Investigate what has happened

The principal is responsible for creating a plan and implementing measures to ensure that the student feels safe and well at school again. This is called the school's duty to act.

## Report to an employee if you are not doing well at school

If you are not doing well at school, you or your parents must report it to a teacher or other school staff. The employee must inform the principal. You can also report directly to the principal if you wish. The principal must take you seriously, and the school must investigate what has happened. The adults at the school must do everything they can to help you. The school must address the issue within a week. Then the school must create a written plan on how they will help you. You can participate in creating the plan if you wish.

### What if you are bullied by a school employee?

If you experience being bullied or harassed by a teacher or other school staff, the school has an extra responsibility to follow up on the matter. The principal must then notify the county municipality, which will follow up on the matter further.

#### Report the matter to the County Governor

If you believe that the school has not done enough to ensure that you feel safe and well at school, you can report the matter to the County Governor in Trøndelag.

- You must have raised the issue with the principal at the school first
- At least a week must have passed since you raised the issue with the principal
- The matter must concern the school environment at the school you are currently attending In very special cases, you can contact the County Governor regardless.

## What can the County Governor do?

The County Governor can check whether the school has done what they are supposed to do in terms of implementing measures. The County Governor can require the school/county municipality to find a solution to ensure that you have a safe and good school environment. If the matter could be unnecessarily delayed, or if they believe that the conditions will not be corrected, the County Governor can exceptionally decide what the school must do to help you. The County Governor must set a deadline for when the measures must be implemented and follow up on the matter. They can also impose fines if the schools do not follow up.

You can also contact the pupil and apprentice ombudsman in Trøndelag if you want help or someone outside the school to talk to about your case <u>4- brosjyre\_elot\_engelsk.pd</u>