



To parents/guardians in the Elverum schools

10th September 2026

Welcome to a New School Year!

A new school year is now underway, and more than 2,300 students have begun another year of learning and well-being in the Elverum schools. As we enter the new school year, I would like to highlight a few areas that we are giving special attention, and where we must work together with you as parents and guardians to succeed.

Reading is an important priority area in the municipality. To strengthen students' language skills, reading comprehension and learning outcomes, we developed a plan for reading and training that was introduced last school year and that will continue to be a focus throughout this school year.

The most effective measure is for students to read every day, both at school and at home. As parents and guardians, you play a valuable role in this, and you are therefore expected to support daily reading and help make it a natural part of everyday life.

Student absence is a challenge in our schools, both at primary and lower secondary level.

Last school year, more than one in four lower secondary students (8.-10.) had an absence rate exceeding 10% (19 days), and nearly one in ten students were absent for more than 20% (38 days).

Absence rates in primary school (1.-7) are not as high, but they are still a concern, particularly towards the end of primary school.

High levels of school absence mean that students miss out on both academic and social learning, as well as their connection to the school community.

The causes of absenteeism are often complex and solving them require efforts from the students themselves, their parents or guardians, the school, and in some cases other support services. I encourage all parents and guardians to pay particular attention to this during the coming school year and to contribute actively to reducing student absence through good routines at home. Schools are implementing several measures to address absenteeism, and it is important to maintain dialogue and coordinated follow-up when challenges arise. Strong cooperation between home and school is one of the most important factors for success in this work!

There is a high level of well-being in the Elverum schools. When students are surveyed through the National Student Survey (Elevundersøkelsen), students in Elverum generally report that they enjoy school and do so to a greater extent than the national average. This provides a strong foundation for addressing school absence and is a strength when building positive and inclusive learning environments!



Together, we can create strong conditions for learning, well-being and development for all students!

Kind regards

*Askild Bø
Director of Education*