



# City of Reykjavik

## Department of Education and Youth

March 2018



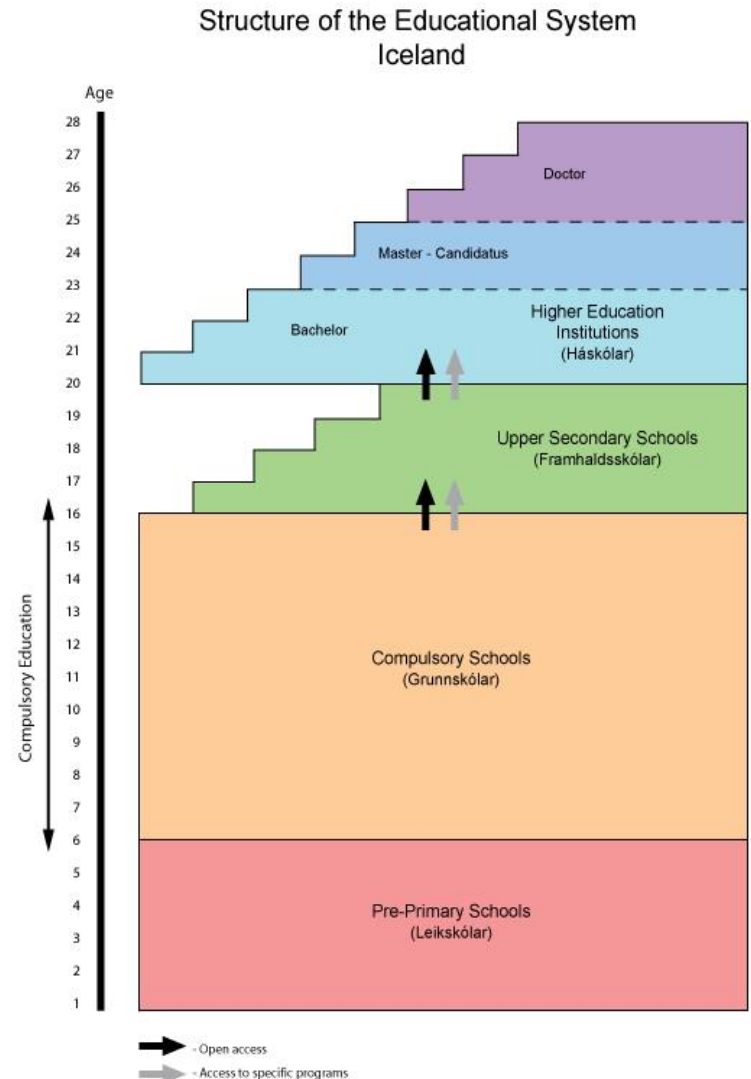
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Department of Education and Youth

# The Icelandic Educational System divided into four levels

- **Preschools:**  
Up till 2-5 years of age.
- **Compulsory Schools:**  
6 – 16 years of age.
- **Upper-secondary Schools:**  
16 – 19 years of age.
- **Universities:**  
from 19/20 years of age.



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There are four levels of education in Iceland; pre - primary schools, compulsory (single structure - primary and lower secondary education), upper and higher education

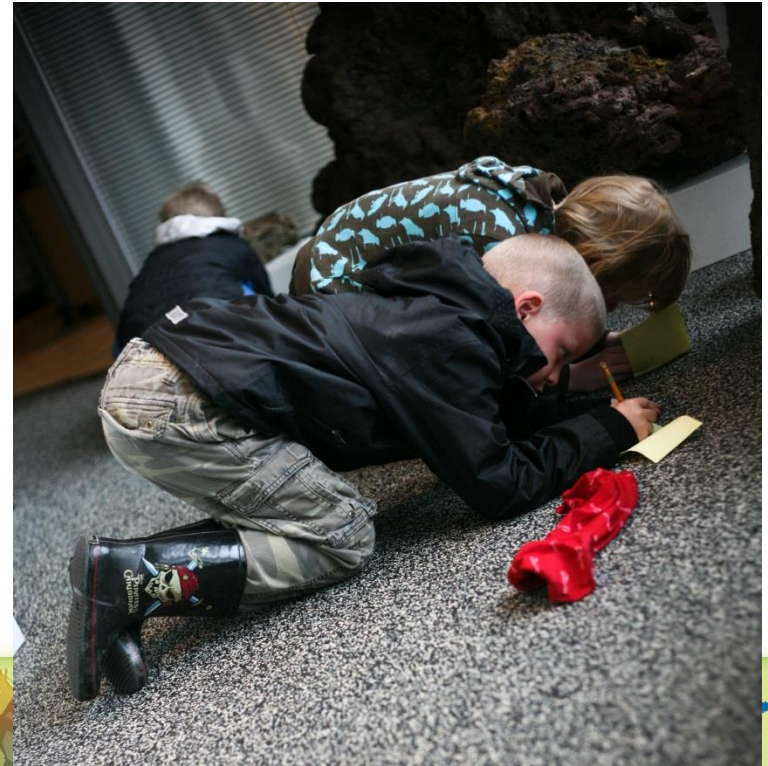
# The Icelandic Educational System

## Ministry of Education and Culture:

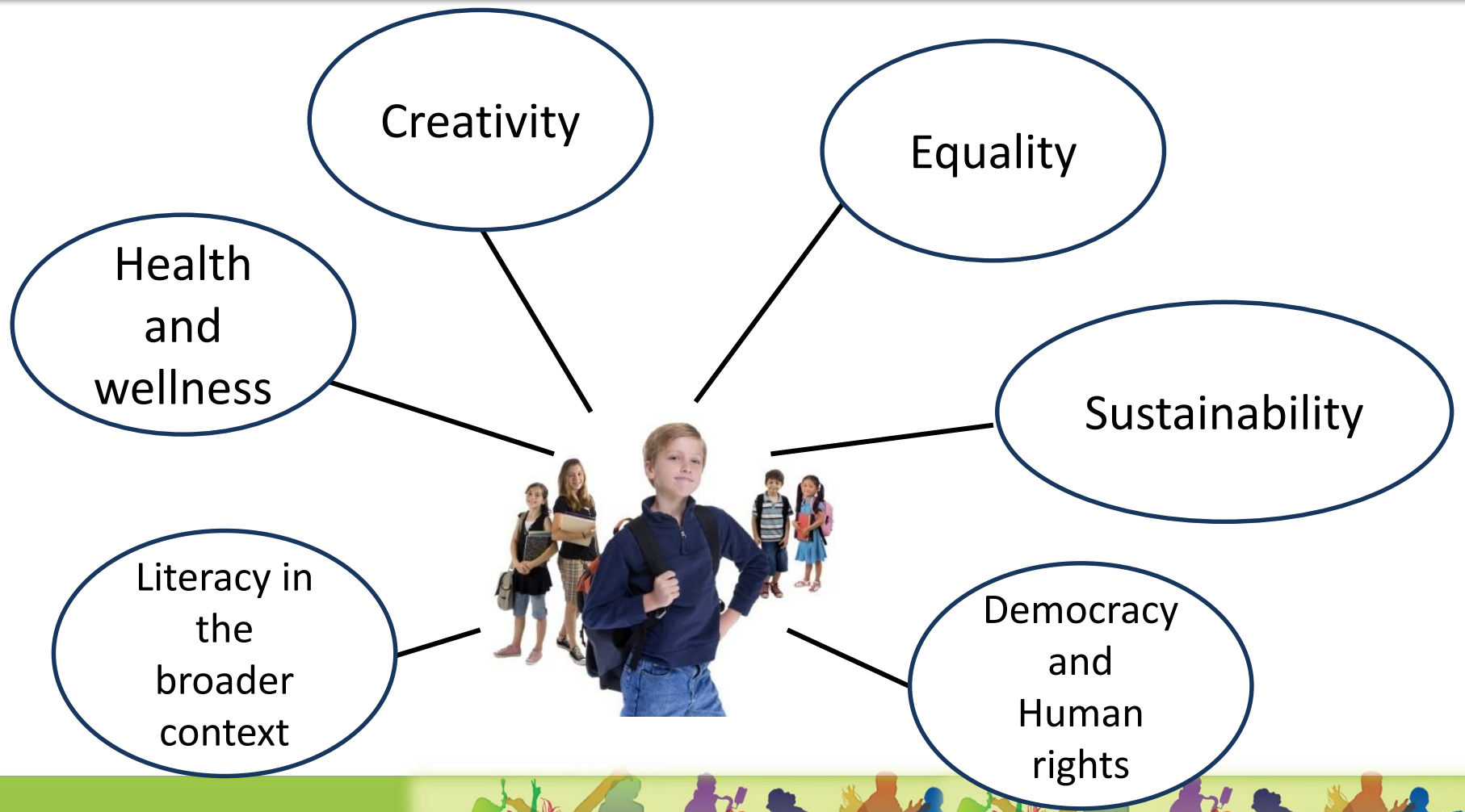
- Law
- Regulations
- National Curriculum

## Communities:

- School policy
- School Development
- Finances and Budget
- Staff Development



# Fundamental pillars of education



# Key competences

- Communication skills
- Creative and critical thinking
- Independence and cooperation
- Use of media and information
- Responsibility and self evaluation

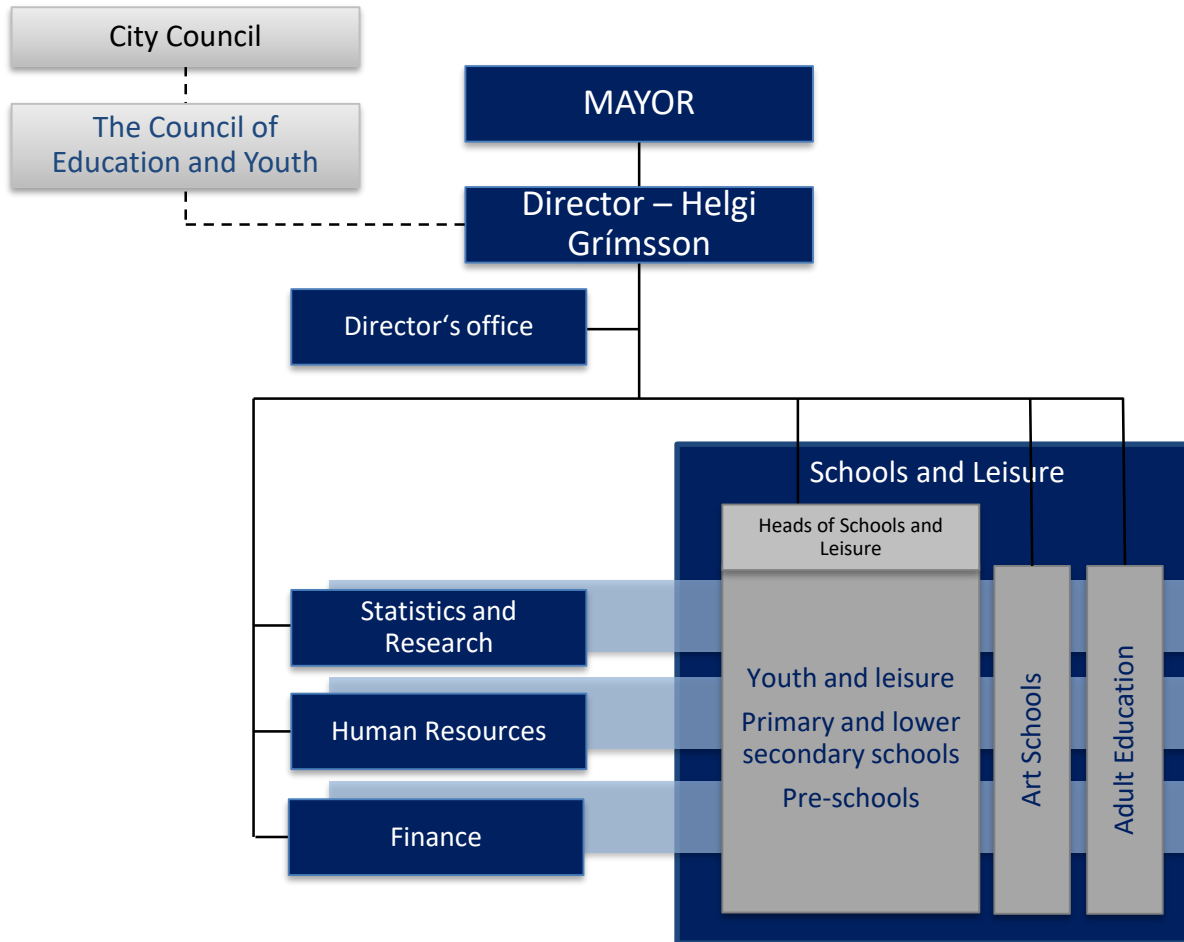




# Criteria for study assessment in compulsory school

Standard	Subject Area	Key Competence
A	Exceptional learning competence and performance with reference to the competence criteria of the subject or field of education.	Exceptional competence with reference to the criteria of competence.
B	Good learning competence and performance with reference to the competence criteria of the subject or field of education.	Good competence with reference to the criteria of competence.
C	Passable learning competence and performance with reference to the competence criteria of the subject or field of education.	Passable competence with reference to the criteria of competence.
D	Defective learning competence and performance with reference to the competence criteria of the subject or field of education.	Defective competence with reference to the criteria of competence.





# OUR MISSION

*To ensure the well-being of every student,  
consistent advance and a good education  
and upbringing for lifetime achievement*



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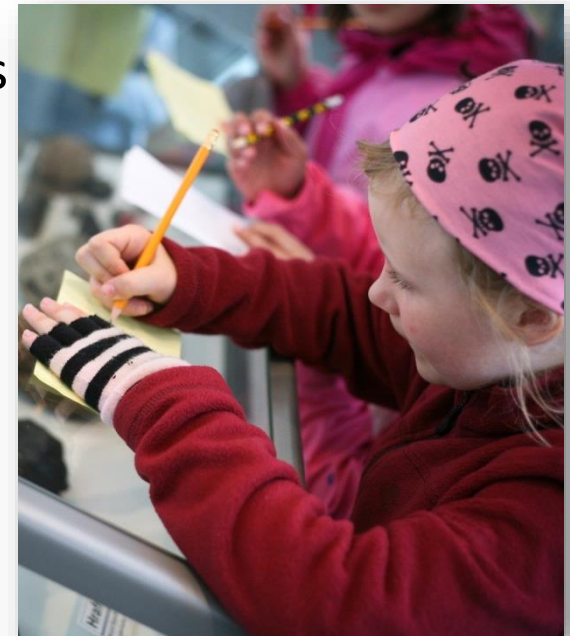
# Reykjavik School District

- Preschools
- Compulsory Schools
- After-School Programs
- Youth Centers
- Summer Activities
- 4 School Music Bands
- 18 Music Schools (financial support)
- Adult Education



# Preschools and Compulsory Schools

- 62 preschools
  - 6.000 children from 18 months to 5 years
- 18 independent preschools
  - 1.000 children from 18 months to 5 years
- About 800 children from 6-18 months stay with
  - 200 home-daycare individuals.
- 36 compulsory schools
  - 14.500 students from 6-16 years
- 7 independent compulsory schools
  - 660 students 6-16 years



# After-School Programs, Youth Centers and Summer Activities

- 33 after-school programs and 6 leisure clubs
  - 4.000 children 6 to 9 years
- 21 youth centers
  - 120.000 attendances yearly
- Variety of Summer Activities for children and youth





# School Bands, Music Shools and Adult Education

- 4 school bands
  - 440 students learn to play an instrument
- 18 music schools get financial support from the community
  - 2.500 students
- Adult Education
  - 250 individuals over 16 years of age receive education and 1.500 seek guidance counselling every year



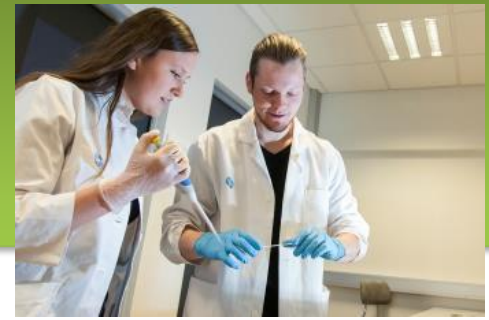
# Key elements of policy

- Individualized and cooperative learning
- Inclusive schools for all students
- Creative schools
  - Biophilia.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8AELvVUFLw>
- Progress, skills and evaluation
- Student health and well being
- Democratic cooperation





# What does the research show?



- Dominant teaching methods: One teacher one group /class, workbooks
- Recent studies show considerably wider range of teaching methods than previous studies have indicated
- There is a lack of connection between government policy and schoolwork
- Biggest diversity in teaching and group work in the youngest grades
- Teachers teamwork on the rise: more workstations for students



# Analysis of teaching methods

- Teacher control is more evident in academic subjects than in arts and crafts
- Cooperation between pupils was noted in 12% of the classroom visits
- Pupil-initiated work was noted in about 10% of the visits
- Theme or project work most often noted in social studies, and experiments in science classes, with the most common teaching method teacher initiated assignments and lecturing
- In all grades, teacher initiated assignments and lecturing were the most common teaching methods, but lecturing was more common in grades 8 to 10 than in the lower grades.



# Our Emphasis in 2015 - 2018

Development of speech, literacy



Vocational, technical, artistic learning



Democracy, equality, human rights



Multiculturalism



Quality and professionalism



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# We are focusing on capacity building

- Integration of School and Leisure for children 2-12 years  
Student Democracy – Active Citizenship
- Inclusion and Equal Opportunities
- Sustainability and outdoor teaching
- School and youth work evaluation



# We are focusing on capacity building

- Schools and Health
- Substance Prevention Among Young People
- Parent Involvement
- Preschools as a bridge between caring and education
- Adult Education, a second chance for learning





# Emphasis on Literacy



Lestrarstefna fyrir grunnskóla Reykjavíkurborgar



Oktober 2012



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# PARENT'S WEBPAGE



Dagforeldrar	Leikskólar	Grunnskólar	Frístundastarf	Næring og heilsa	Lærum saman
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### Að byrja í leikskóla



Foreldrar eru í lykilhlutverki þegar barnið byrjar í aðlögun í leikskólanum. [Lesið meira](#)

### Virkir foreldrar



Viðhorf foreldra skipta sköpum fyrir námsgleði og árangur. [Lesið meira](#)

### Faglegt starf



Stóðugt er leitað nýrra leiða í fagstarfinu til að mæta breyttum þörfum samfélagsins. [Lesið meira](#)

### Lærum saman



Kynntu þér vel daglegt starf barnsins og sýndu því áhuga og virðingu. [Lesið meira](#)

### Frístundaheimili



Félagsþroski, samstarf og samheldni er í brennidepli í öllu frístundastarfi. [Lesið meira](#)

### Samstarf um lausnir



Eigi barn við vanda að etja finnst besta lausnin í samstarfi foreldra og skóla. [Lesið meira](#)

[www.reykjavik.is/foreldrar](http://www.reykjavik.is/foreldrar)

[http://www.reykjavik.is/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-4576/7796\\_view-5782/](http://www.reykjavik.is/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-4576/7796_view-5782/)



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# All children have the right to live in a society without violence



- Team working on different ways aiming at the goal that we all live in a friendly society where we take responsibility and treat each other with respect and empathy.
- Bullying is not tolerated

*It starts with me and ends with we*



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# Multicultural education

- The city of Reykjavik's Human Rights Policy
- Policy for Multicultural /Intercultural Education and Play (Heimurinn er hér/The World is here)
- 80 different nationalities
- 50 languages
- special support



## Heimurinn er hér

Stefna skóla- og frístundasviðs Reykjavíkur  
um fjölmenningarlegt skóla- og frístundastarf



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# Children and Youth in Reykjavik

## Achieve Success

- Students in the final year of lower secondary school are **over national average** in Icelandic, mathematics and English in annual standardized tests 2011.
- **PISA 2009 results for reading, mathematics and science were improved** following a city-wide effort targeting those subjects. 2012 and 2016 showed slight decrease in results.
- **90% of parents** of pre-school children feel that the pre-school works well with social skills and 97% say that their children are happy at the pre-school.





# Children and Youth in Reykjavik

## Achieve Success

- **Around 80%** of students 12-15 years of age **say they always do their best** to learn the skills and knowledge presented in their studies.
- **Over 90% of** compulsory school parents say **their children are happy** at school.



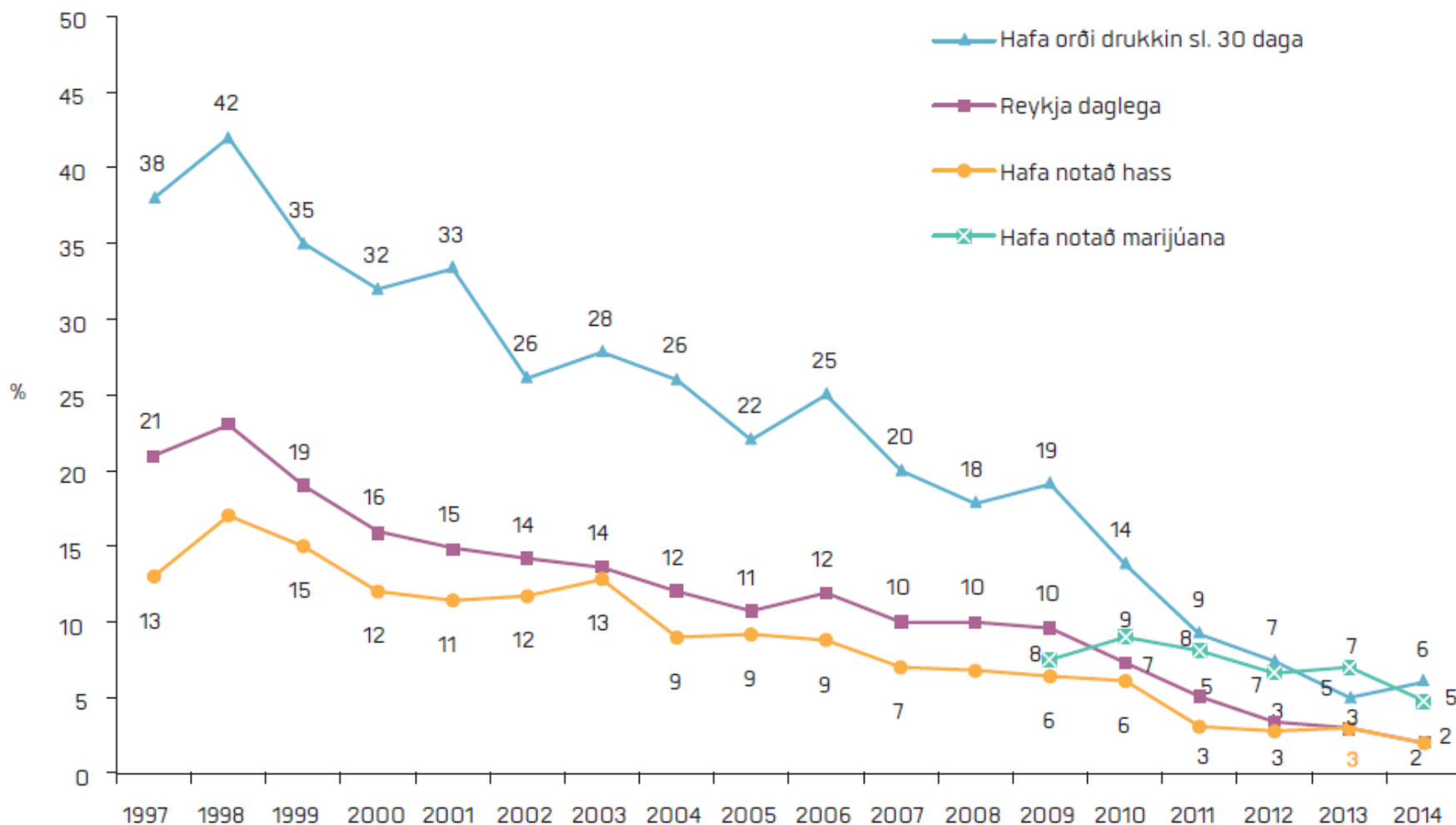
# Children and Youth in Reykjavik

## Achieve Success

- **Around 90% of parents** say that after-school programs and youth centers have positive influence on their children social competence.
- **Over 90% of youth** aged 13-15 take part in some form of leisure activities.
- We have good results in our schools where monitoring methods and prevention policy has **significantly decreased** student use of **alcohol, drugs and smoking**.



## Percentage of 10th grade students in Reykjavik schools, smoking daily, being drunk the last 30 days and used narcotics once or more in their lifetime - 1997-2014



Mynd 82. Þróun vímuefnaneyslu unglinga í 10. bekk á Íslandi árin 1997 til 2014.

# The Reykjavik Education Policy 2030

- Initiated by the Reykjavik City Council in January 2017
- Supported by all political parties
- Wide- ranging consultation – participatory approach
- Involving all major stakeholders
- Local and international team of advisers –Pasi Sahlberg
- Thousands of teachers and professionals in all preschools, elementary schools and leisure centers participating
- On-line poll participation by the general public



# Stakeholders/participants

- Students and parents
- Teachers and school principals
- Teachers Associations
- University faculty
- Local and international advisers
- City council members from all parties
- City officials
- General public





# Program and timeline

- Gathering ideas February-April 2017  
focus groups of more than 450 stakeholders
- Formulating a vision May-June 2017  
involving all workplaces in our school system  
and public consultation through *Better Reykjavik*
- Making an action-plan August-Dec. 2017
- Approving a new policy January-Feb. 2018











Þessi fjórir höfundar hafa skrifað bókina "Hvernig er lífið í Reykjavík?"

- Hvernig þúft býna eitt af öðru?
- Hvernig þúft að undirbúa annað hvern þegar þúft kemst fram?
- Hvernig skráð á kortun um lífið og þúft annað?



# Purpose of *Education Policy 2030* project

- Unity on key objectives
- Focus on few, well-defined and most important areas of improvement
- Action- based approach
- Emphasizing students' educational needs and well-being



