

ICEC Conference

Reducing access barriers in Early Childhood Education and Care: International perspectives on local governance

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Abstract & CV

Efficient and fair? Governing access through allocating ECEC places in Sweden

Linda Ekstrand, Sollentuna Municipality, Sweden

My presentation covers Sollentuna Municipalities strategies for planning and organising for preschool allocation and preschools places. It describes the key areas we work with in the municipality when planning and organizing so that all children can be accommodated in preschool. The ability to choose preschool, school, leisure time centre, high school and adult education is a priority in Sollentuna. Based on the school law directives and regulations, the municipality works for protection and to strengthen this choice. The Children and Youth Committee is responsible for the education in the municipality. We have 12000 children and pupils in municipal operations. The education administration in total is responsible for about 18,000 children and pupils in the municipality. In Sollentuna and in Sweden there is a free choice of preschool places. In Sollentuna Municipality, we have a queuing system where guardians can apply for five different preschool places. Both the municipal and the independent use this queuing system. In my presentation, I cover the priority arrangement when we allocating preschool places for guardians, what rules and what options the guardians have when they seek preschool for their child. The presentation also includes a brief summary of the Swedish preschool system. I briefly describe the various laws and regulations that form the basis for all preschools educational work in Sweden.

Linda Ekstrand is director of the entire education segment (preschool, elementary school and high school) in Sollentuna Municipality, close to Stockholm in Sweden. Before that, she has worked both as principal of preschool and school.