



Description of the Participant School – 1 in Norway

KARUSS SKOLE

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Size and structure of the school: Karuss skole encompasses school year 1-10 and has about 60 employees and about 430 pupils. The school is situated in Vågsbygd, a part outside the city centre of Kristiansand. The school is divided into two levels, primary school ('barnetrinn', 1-7) and lower secondary school ('ungdomstrinn', 8-10). On primary level there is 1 class for each year and on lower secondary level there are 3 parallel classes for each year.

Geographical context of the school: Vågsbygd has about 20000 inhabitants and the whole city of Kristiansand has about 75000. The school is situated in a nice area, north west of the centre, with many opportunities of sport and outdoor life. Nearby is Fiskå School, a lower secondary school.

History of the school: The school started in 2002 and is thus one of the newer schools in Kristiansand.

Socio-economic environment: The area is mixed with big blocks of houses and smaller family houses. The socioeconomic level is probably a little below average in Kristiansand.

Description of what is done in the school of multicultural work and how migrant pupils are taken care of: Karuss skole has about 1/3 of pupils with another first language than Norwegian. The teacher we work with teaches in a class 8 with 12 migrant pupils from 28. She has not got any special education or competence development for this task. Once a week all mathematics teachers gather for a meeting which she considers very helpful. They discuss and plan together. This is voluntary, the teachers do not count work time for this, but they consider it valuable and wish to continue. In pupils week-plans it is visible which concepts they are working with in different subjects. This is done especially for the migrant pupils so they know which concepts are important for the coming week. The teacher claims that word problems are especially difficult for those pupils. To extract meaning from a text, to understand the words, is the biggest challenge for them.

Newcomers who are migrant pupils will get some extra help in the beginning in Norwegian and often 1-2 hours per week with their first language teacher. But the school does not get any extra resources for the migrant pupils.

Any kind of special information about the teaching of mathematics in the school: Karuss skole works thematically and they use workplans, emphasises pupils engagement and call themselves the school of tomorrow. The key word for the school is cooperation.