The National Agency for Special Needs Education and Schools

We work to ensure that children, young people and adults – regardless of functional ability – have adequate conditions to fulfil their educational goals.

This is done through:
- special needs support
- education in special needs schools
- accessible teaching materials
- government funding

We have broad knowledge of the pedagogical consequences of disabilities. The support we offer involves individuals’ learning and the work and activities of teachers as well as organisational issues.

We believe everyone, regardless of functional ability, has the right to a well-functioning education.

The knowledge and skills we offer are a complement to the resources of the municipalities and schools.

For more information

We welcome visits from parents and others who would like to learn more about the school. Feel free to contact us for more information.

Anna Karin Lauste, head teacher,
email: annakarin.lauste@spsm.se

Malin Johansson, contact person for visits and new pupils
email: malin.johansson@spsm.se

Address:
Vänerskolan, Box 296,
462 23 Vänersborg, Sweden

Visiting address:
Korsgatan 22, Vänersborg

Telephone: +46 10 473 63 00
Email: vanerskolan@spsm.se

Visit our website for more information:
www.spsm.se

June 2013
Väner School

Väner School is a state special needs school for pupils who are deaf or hearing impaired. Our goal is for pupils to become bilingual, that is, to learn to communicate in both sign language and Swedish.

Individual needs guide the education
Teaching takes place in small groups and the school has high teacher ratios and modern hearing-technology facilities. We use individually adapted teaching materials, based on each pupil's requirements, and enlist the help of IT tools to facilitate and promote the pupil's communication and learning.

Language and communication
Väner School offers a bilingual education in a sign-language environment, which means that instruction is given in both sign language and spoken Swedish, with the help of hearing technology.

Accommodation and leisure time activities
Väner School has week-round accommodation that serves as an alternative to pupils who live far away. The houses are located in neighbourhoods close to the school and are staffed by adults who look after the welfare of the children.

Each pupil has his or her own room. The pupils live with other pupils, sharing meals, leisure time activities and help with homework. Pupils can live here for the whole school week or part of it.

After-school recreation centre
There is an after-school recreation centre directly adjacent to the school classrooms, financed by the home municipality. Opening hours at the centre are adapted to the needs of the children, as are its activities.

School transport and travel
The school organises all weekend trips and all travel directly connected to the beginning and end of the school day. The school covers these travel expenses.

Part-time pupils
Väner School offers part-time education one or two days a week to pupils with hearing impairments who go to other schools. In spoken Swedish but using audio-technical teaching aids, they are given the chance to learn sign language and share experiences with other hearing-impaired pupils during a trial period.

Sign language camps for pupils with hearing impairments
Pupils with hearing impairments from other schools are invited two to three times a year to come to sign language camps at Väner School, where they can learn more about their impairment, learn sign language and meet other pupils with hearing impairments.

Sign language classes for hearing children in deaf families
Väner School also offers sign language classes for hearing children with parents or siblings who are deaf or hearing-impaired. The purpose of the education is for the children to learn sign language, spend time in a sign-language environment and meet other children who share the same family situation.