

1+1 Project

Small Group Instruction in Mathematics for Students in Grades 2-4



School year 2018/19

Dear parent/guardian

Your child attends a school participating in the research project 1+1. This brochure provides information about the project and what participation means for your child. The research project includes cohorts 2008-2011, i.e. students enrolled in 1st grade from fall 2014 until fall 2017.

1+1 is led by the Nordic Institute for Studies in Innovation, Research and Education (NIFU) in collaboration with the Institute for Social Research (ISF) and the Centre for Economic Research (SØF). The project is funded by the Research Council of Norway.

About 1+1

- 160 schools from 10 municipalities in Norway are participating.
- 1+1 studies the effect of small group instruction in mathematics on students' learning.
- Half of the schools that agreed to participate in the project were randomly chosen to receive an additional teacher. The additional teacher will carry out small group instruction in mathematics for students in grades 2-4.
- In the school year 2017/18, students in grades 2 and 3 will receive small group instruction at schools that have an additional teacher. In 2018/19, students in grades 2 and 4 will receive small group instruction, while in 2019/20, students from grades 3 and 4 will receive small group instruction.
- Small group instruction in mathematics is organized by teachers placing students in groups of maximum 6 students. It takes place at the same time as regular math instruction and the curriculum is the same.
- During one school year, the goal is that all students participate in two periods of small group instruction. Each period lasts 4-6 weeks.
- Depending on school size, all or some students will receive small group instruction in the participating grades. In large schools, some students/classes are randomly selected to receive small group instruction.
- **Project participation will not cause any classes or students to receive fewer resources than they otherwise would have received.**

What does participation in 1+1 entail for my child?

The aim of 1+1 is to gain as much information as possible about the effects of small group instruction in mathematics on students' learning. To understand whether small group instruction leads to increased learning, we need information about what students know at the beginning of the school year and what they know at the end of each school year. This information allows us to compare how student learning develops for students receiving small group instruction relative to other students. Students at all participating schools will therefore take a short test in mathematics at the beginning and end of each school year.



Why be a part of 1+1?

Considerable funds are used to increase the number of teachers in the Norwegian school, without knowing enough about how these resources should be utilized. 1+1 will provide new knowledge on how additional teaching resources should be used to provide the greatest benefit for students. The research will be of great importance for development of the educational system in the years ahead.

Privacy and consent

The project is implemented in accordance with the Privacy Law. All information collected will be treated confidentially. No schools or students will be identified in publications resulting from the project.

To investigate the effect of small group instruction in mathematics it is important that we can link the results from the various mathematics tests, and from national tests in grades 5 and 8 and grades in grade 10 - when the time comes. To get the best possible use of the information collected in the project, we connect these results to information about the student's gender and country of birth, and parents' education and country of birth. This information is retrieved from public records. This coupling of data is what you agree to by signing the consent form.

It is voluntary to give consent, and you can at any time withdraw your consent without giving a reason.

Do you want to know more about the research?

Read more about 1+1 here: <http://1pluss1prosjektet.no/en>

Here you will also find contact information. Feel free to ask us any questions!



Sincerely

Vibeke Opheim
Project Manager

