The Swedish Board of Housing, Building and Planning’s general recommendations (2015:1) on open space for play and time spent outdoors in after-school centres, preschools, schools or similar establishments

**BFS 2015:1**

The following translation is for informative purposes only. The legally binding text is found in the Boverket’s Code of Statutes (www.boverket.se).

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**Introduction**

*General recommendation*
This is general recommendations for chapter 8, Section 9 second paragraph, Section 10 and 11 of the Planning and Building Act (2010:900), PBL.

The general recommendations regarding the application of the mandatory provisions in the abovementioned statutes indicate how someone can or should act in order to comply with the requirements of the mandatory provisions.

The general recommendations may also contain particular information for the purpose of clarification or of an editorial nature.

The general recommendations are preceded by the words “General recommendation” and are printed using smaller, indented text.

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**To the Planning and Building Act (2010:900)**

**Placement and provision of open space on undeveloped land**

*Chapter 8, Section 9 second paragraph*

*General recommendation*
With regards placement and provision of open spaces for play and spending time outdoors in after-school centres, pre-schools, schools or similar establishments special attention should be paid to the open space’s size, design, accessibility, safety, and ability to fulfil intended activities. In this general recommendations, intended activities refers to the ability to use the open space for play and recreation as well as physical and pedagogic work for the activity the open space is intended for. Open space should be ample enough that it is possible to provide varying terrain and vegetation conditions without difficulty or risk of extensive wear and tear. Open space should be characterized by good sun and shade conditions, good air quality, as well as good sound quality.

Open space should be directly connected to the building which contains the premises for pre-school, pre-school class, school years one to six, after-school centres or similar establishments and the children and students should be able to independently go between the building and open space. Open space should be directly or closely connected to the building which contains the premises for school years seven to nine and students should be able to independently go between the building and open space. For high schools open space should be placed and organised in a way that is appropriate with regards to the student’s and organisation’s needs.

Open space should not later be able to be appropriated for another purpose without being substituted with open space that offers equal possibilities for varied play and time spent outdoors.

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Placement and provision of open space on developed land

Chapter 8, Section 10 and 11

General recommendation

With regards the placement and provision of open space on developed land the general recommendations in Chapter 8, Section 9 second paragraph should be applied in the appropriate manner. With regards appropriateness, special attention should be paid to the open space’s ability to fulfil its intended activities and in seeing that the open space is located so that the children and students can independently go from the building which contains the premises for pre-school, pre-school class, school, after-school centre or similar establishment and the open space.

These general recommendations\(^1\) are effective from 1 March 2015.

\(^1\) BFS 2015:1.