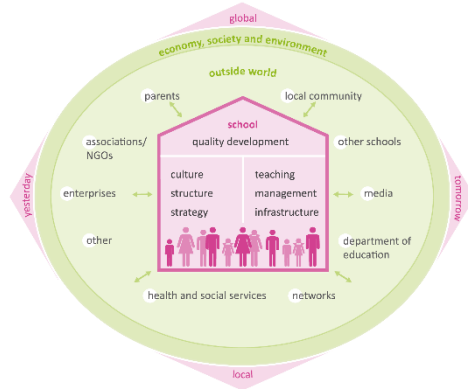


Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is both a prerequisite and an engine for sustainable development. It contributes to all SDGs in particular to the SDG Goal 4: **"Ensure inclusive, equitable and quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030"**.

ESD allows every individual to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary to shape a sustainable future. ESD is an educational concept that is applied across all subjects and the entire school, it suits also for the lifelong learning. It supports holistic learning processes on the basis of future-relevant questions. Using reflexive and participatory methods, it promotes the development of key competences for sustainable development.



Healthy and sustainable schools

Through an ESD-whole school approach, schools integrate health promotion and sustainability into all aspects of school life, including learning / teaching content and methodology, mission statement, school management, program, processes, structures, school building and environment. Schools develop towards a healthy, socially, ecologically and economically sustainable working, learning and living space. So they can optimally accompany their students in their development to become independent personalities and responsible co-creators of the society and the environment.

In order to become a healthy and sustainable school, leadership is just as important as the participation of everyone involved, i.e. pupils, teachers, school staff and the wider school community such as parents and community members.

Schoolnetwork21 Swiss network for healthy and sustainable schools

The network supports schools to develop in a healthy and sustainable way through a whole school approach.

By becoming a member of the Schoolnetwork21, schools commit themselves to a long-term integration of health promotion and ESD into everyday life. The member schools set their own goals and accents according to their starting position, needs and interests. These can be, for example: school climate, nutrition and movement, psychosocial health of pupils and teachers, implementation of interdisciplinary competences and ESD according to the curriculum, nature-oriented school grounds, cultivation of partnerships with the community, local companies or organizations, fair and environmentally responsible resource management, etc.



The network provides support for a variety of topics based on the curricula and the SDG's



- **Health:** nutrition, mental and physical health, etc.
- **Democracy and human rights:** children's rights, citizenship, participation, etc.
- **Diversity and intercultural understanding:** Prevention of racism, gender and equality, religions, etc.
- **Environment and natural resources:** energy, biodiversity, climate, etc.
- **Consumption and economy:** work, tourism, mobility, etc.
- **Global development:** peace, migration, globalisation, etc.
- Other topics

Education for a sustainable development (ESD) links the topics in an interdisciplinary manner and gives them a common orientation.

Improvement of the school climate and inclusive education

An external evaluation attested that the climate in healthy and sustainable schools developed positively. The majority of the pupils surveyed reported greater cohesion and a decline in conflicts. The team culture in the college improved and the overloading of teachers was reduced.

Skills for the future

With health promotion and education for a sustainable development, central competences are built up that are necessary for coping with future challenges. In such a school context, children can optimally mature into self-determined, creative individuals with creative competence, entrepreneurship and a sense of community and solidarity.

To become members, schools have to

- analyse the current situation
- set up a programme with objectives for at least three years
- show commitment of school management, college and school authority
- denominate a working group and coordinator
- school management bears the responsibility for the process
- participate in exchange meetings of the network
- record their process

Services for member schools

- Exchange of experience
- Impulse conferences
- Practical tools and instruments
- Quality framework tools
- Regular Newsletter
- Appreciation through process label and logo
- Cantonal coordination office and point of contact
- Advice and support
- Training and more

Why schools join the network?

- Contact point for all questions relating to health promotion and ESD
- Services free of charge
- Networking platform for exchange and collaborative learning
- Promotion of own quality development and on-going improvement
- Profiling inwards and outwards
- Inclusive education, etc.

Schoolnetwork21 - Facts

Over 20 years of experience

The network was founded in 1997 as Swiss Network of Health Promoting Schools since 2017 further developed under new name: Schoolnetwork21 – Swiss network for healthy and sustainable schools

Established throughout Switzerland

over 1800 member schools
22 partner networks

Broadly supported

Board of trustees of éducation21 (according to the whole-of-government approach)

National coordination

éducation21, the national competence centre for ESD, in cooperation with RADIX