

# Preventing Dropout Across Nordic Borders

Preventing Dropout was a project with 12 partners from the Öresund region, running from 2011-2014. The aim of the project was to establish cooperation between secondary schools, counsellors and researchers in Sweden and Denmark in order to spread and develop knowledge about how we get more young people to finish a high school education.

Preventing Dropout focused on developing and testing methods to reduce drop-out rates that can be used by teachers, counsellors and other school staff. The activities consist of research circles and skills development groups. In a booklet published by the project, four approaches to success are recommended. To guide and support the student, create a shared set of values at the school, act early if school attendance drops and set clear learning goals for the individual.

*I must pull myself together, and I say to myself that I have to. Then I look at the whiteboard and listen hard for five minutes. All of a sudden you sit and mess with your phone again, looking at it once more... And then you must pull yourself together for five minutes again.*

Student

## Real Skills Gained

The project was successful in many ways. Both school leaders, teachers and counsellors confirm that they gained real skills while working with the project. Skills that are expected to be beneficial to students in the years to come. The activities have contributed to more reflection and the introduction and development of new methods to prevent dropout.