

Description of the Tool (why and for whom?)

A pedagogical walk-through is used to evaluate different environments in schools and preschools as a way of improving them. First, a group of teachers guided by a tour leader walk through the areas and make notes about how they accommodate the kind of activities taking place in them. This is then followed by a discussion about the internal and external environments and how they might be changed and improved. Walk-throughs have been used in different contexts with multi-professional teams and with children of different ages. A *pedagogical* walk-through is primarily a tool for teachers in different types of school to become more aware of the role of the physical environment for teaching and learning and how it can best be developed.



Instructions (how to use the tool)

A group of five people is sufficient for a pedagogical walk-through. Have participants read the instructions before the walk begins. The walk-through facilitator selects places to stop (five are sufficient) and also prepares protocols for each person (link to template is [here](#)). The provision of floor plans and photographic equipment is helpful. . The place could be a room or a corridor.

- At each stop on the walk-through ask the participants to take 5-10 minutes to individually fill in the protocol regarding: a) which teaching and learning activities can best be performed there, what is b) positive and supportive, or c) negative or limiting. Examples of things to look at are furniture and its placement, equipment and technology, flexibility, sight lines, accessibility, size, acoustics and light and air quality. The last point is to d) suggest improvements. The facilitator takes photos.
- Gather the group after each stop for the sharing of notes and observations. Start with activities and let everyone briefly have their say, then move on to possibilities etc. Make sure that the participants take turns at being the first to share. The facilitator makes notes during the discussions, and collects the protocols.

Analysis instructions

Pedagogical walk-throughs offer possibilities to explore the existing learning environments and elicit collegial reflections, which can lead to new solutions and improved learning environments.

In the next step of the process the facilitator summarises the notes from the protocols. These summaries and the photographs that have been taken are then collated in a single document. This collated material can then be used as a point of departure for the further development of the learning environments.



Pedagogical walk-through
(PW)

Stop 1: Please add

Activities

Positive/possibilities

Negative/limitations

Suggestions for improvements

Stop 2: Please add

Activities

Positive/possibilities

Negative/limitations

Suggestions for improvements

Additional resources

A film showing walk-through evaluations with different professions and students is available [here](#).

Literature:

de Laval, Suzanne (2014). *Gåtturer – metod för dialog och analys*. Byggtjänst. Stockholm.

de Laval, Suzanne, Frelin, Anneli & Grannäs, Jan (2019) *Ifous fokuserar - Skolmiljöer. Utvärdering och erfarenhetsåterföring i fysisk skolmiljö*. Stockholm: Ifous.

Links to the project: <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/eplus-project-details/#project/2019-1-UK01-KA201-061954>

Twitter: @ILEHIGSE1 #CollaborativeReDesignwithSchools

Contact: anneli.frelin@hig.se jan.grannas@hig.se



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