

Statens barnehus

Who are we?



Statens barnehus



Every human has a right to be safe and to receive help if they are in a difficult situation.

If a child or a particularly vulnerable adult has witnessed or been the victim of sexual assault, violence, or other possible criminal acts, it is important that the police are notified and that the incident is reported to the police.

By particularly vulnerable adults, we mean any person with a mental impairment or disability that necessitates a facilitated investigative interview.

Facilitated interviews are conducted in a safe environment at Statens barnehus. There you meet plain-clothes police and a professional team specialising in these types of cases.

What is a facilitated investigative interview?

A facilitated investigative interview is a deposition in which children or other witnesses covered by the law provide statements in facilitated surroundings as an alternative to appearing in court and providing testimony there.

The interviews are recorded on video. The rules for facilitated interviews and who may be present during questioning are governed by Section 239 of the Criminal Procedure Act.

Where are we located?

Statens barnehus has facilities in 11 Norwegian cities. We have facilities in Bergen, Bodø, Hamar, Kristiansand, Moss, Oslo, Sandefjord, Stavanger, Trondheim, Tromsø, and Ålesund. Some Barnehus also have branches in other cities.

Why do we have Statens barnehus?

- **Facilitation.** Statens barnehus is important to allow children and vulnerable adults to testify about potentially bad and worrisome experiences.
- **All in one place.** All of the specialist agencies involved are gathered in one place to ensure that children and vulnerable adults do not have to tell their stories multiple times.
- **Coordinated.** We coordinate the follow-up efforts between the Child Welfare Service, the police, and medical services.
- **Relief.** The interview is recorded on video. By doing this, the child or vulnerable adult does not have to appear in court to provide testimony in the event of a trial.
- **Security under the law.** Particular emphasis is placed on ensuring the protection of the law for everyone involved.

Who comes to Statens barnehus?

- Children under the age of 16 or particularly vulnerable adults who may have witnessed or been the victim of sexual assault, violence, or other possible criminal acts.
- The police may conduct facilitated interviews with children between the ages of 16 and 18 in cases concerning incest, sibling incest, or sexual activity with closely related family members.
- Minors suspected of having committed serious crimes can, following careful consideration, be interviewed by the police at Statens barnehus.
- At police discretion, other groups may also be interviewed.

What happens at Statens barnehus?

- Facilitated interviews
- Police interviews
- Medical examinations and dental health examinations.
- Treatment and follow-up
- Contact and coordination with other instances, such as the Child Welfare Service.
- Consultation and guidance for public and private actors



POLITIET



STATENS BARNEHUS
Et tverrfaglig kompetansehus