Education in detention during the outbreak of COVID-19

Dear Annet Bekker,

The Ministry of Justice and Public Security would like to thank you and the European Prison Education Association for your letter 5 April 2020.

The Norwegian Correctional Services have implemented several measures to protect the health of prisoners and staff during the outbreak of Covid-19. Special attention has been paid to mitigating the negative consequences of these measures for the prisoners, such as allowing video calls to help prisoners stay in contact with family and friends.

The Norwegian Correctional Service relies on what is called the Import Model. This model entails that medical, educational and similar services are provided by local and municipal service providers as opposed to prison staff. Although the measures implemented during the pandemic have limited the educational services offered to prisoners, attempts are made to provide such services while respecting the guidelines and regulations provided by the health care authorities, including through providing online education.

Yours sincerely,
Lise Lehrmann  
Deputy Director General  

Hanne Lillemork  
Adviser  

The document is approved electronically, as such no handwritten signatures are required.