

## Does the outdoor air pollute in daycares?

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### Pollution sources

Pollution from road traffic, wood smoke, diesel trains, cruise ships, etc. that occur close to the daycare can significantly pollute the indoor environment when windows are open or if the daycare has mechanical ventilation that sucks the pollution into the daycare. Closed, newer windows are usually tight and often keep pollution out.

More information: <https://en.godtindeklima.nu/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/12/wood-smoke-in-houses-with-mechanical-ventilation-1.pdf>

### Solutions

If the daycare is right next to a trafficked road, keep windows and doors facing the road closed during rush hour. Avoid bonfire activities in the daycare, as this exposes both children and the staff to high levels of harmful air pollution. Keep windows and doors closed if you smell wood smoke or diesel. If the windows are not tight, replace the windows or buy and install sealing strips.

If the daycare has mechanical ventilation, replace the filter with a better filter (HEPA or EPA filters) and, if necessary, have an activated carbon filter installed in the ventilation system, if technically possible. Note that the filters must be changed regularly.

Talk to your neighbours about finding a good solution if you can smell the neighbour's wood smoke. If that does not help, or if the air outside or in the ventilation intake smells like wood smoke, diesel oil, slurry, etc., contact the municipality.

If the above does not help, an air purifier can be an emergency solution - but air purifiers are best at removing particles and generally not good at removing chemicals – read more here and be careful of what you buy: <https://godtindeklima.nu/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/air-purifiers-capability-to-reduce-exposure-to-pollution-generated-in-private-homes-med-appendix.pdf>

### Have measurements made

We can help with measurements and assessments of the indoor environment, and solution options to get a better indoor environment. Contact the Head of secretariat Kaare Press-Kristensen: [kaare@godtindeklima.nu](mailto:kaare@godtindeklima.nu) / tel. (+45) 22 81 10 27.

**More on indoor air pollution and solutions:**

[www.healthyindoorenvironment.org](http://www.healthyindoorenvironment.org)