
Masked man 'with sword or knife' kills 2, injures 3 at Swedish school

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Two people were killed by a masked attacker with a sword or knife at a school in the city of Trollhättan in southwest Sweden, local media reported. Three others were injured.

An adult male teacher died at the scene. The second person died while undergoing surgery at 2:30 p.m. local time, DN newspaper cited police as saying.

"A single man went into the school building...and he injured four persons – two male adults and two boys," police media officer Stefan Gustafsson told RT.

The press secretary of NAL hospital, Niklas Claesson, told RT by phone that *"two kids (11 and 16 years of age), one teacher and the suspect"* were brought in for medical help.

The attacker was shot and injured by police and later succumbed to his wounds at the hospital, Aftonbladet newspaper reported.

Gustafsson said a suspect armed with a *"sword of some kind or a large knife"* entered the Kronan School at about 10:10 a.m., and that police drew their weapons at the scene.

"We know nothing at all [about the attacker]," he said, adding that the suspect was taken to hospital after being shot by police.

A student at the school told The Local: *"I was in a classroom with my class when one of my classmates' sisters called her to warn her that there was a murderer at the school. So we locked the door to the classroom, but our teacher was still outside in the corridor.*

We wanted to warn him, so a few of us went outside and then I saw the murderer, he was wearing a mask and had a sword. Our teacher got stabbed. The murderer started chasing me. I ran into another classroom. If I had not run, I

would have been murdered.”

Some reports say the attacker was wearing a Star Wars mask.

The school was engulfed in chaos following the incident, with students and teachers crying and in distress, TTELA photographer Stefan Bennhage said, as cited by Norwegian newspaper Aftenbladet.

He described hundreds of people standing around the main street, adding that some were trying to get past the police cordon.

Gustaffson said the incident is now over, and the situation in the town is beginning to calm down. He added, however, that family members are still arriving at the school to check on friends and relatives.

Following the incident, Swedish Teacher's Union president Johanna JaaraAstrand tweeted: *"Terrible what happened in Trollhättan! Think of the children, staff and families. All support to them in this unimaginable situation!"*

The school is attended by more than 400 children, according to its website. Students range from around age six to 15.

The attack occurred in Kronogården, a disadvantaged area where more than half the population were born abroad.

Researchers have named Trollhättan the most highly segregated city in Sweden, with immigrants concentrated in Kronogården.

Elsewhere in Sweden, a school in the city of Hortlax was cordoned off after a man was seen traveling toward the school on bicycle, wielding an ax.

He was arrested on the spot, Aftenbladet newspaper cited police officer Catrin Hedqvist as saying. She added that an investigation is underway.
