Air pollution affects children’s health

Increases the risk of developing asthma and leads to a higher number and more severe asthma attacks.

Children’s school performance.

Brain, heart, and nervous system, even before birth.

Main findings using citizen science

NO₂, from outside, mostly from traffic, found in all classrooms monitored.

Varied concentrations of PM, at times higher than what the World Health Organization recommends.

CO₂, values in the majority of classrooms above the levels recommended by health experts, indicating the need for more ventilation.

What needs to happen?

Consider indoor air quality when renovating school buildings for energy efficiency.

More and longer-term air quality monitoring.

Clean up the air outdoors to improve the air indoors.

Health sector engagement on healthy school settings, including advising schools and authorities on clean air, energy and climate measures in- and outdoors.

HEAL monitored air pollution in and around 50 schools in Berlin, Madrid, London, Sofia, Paris and Warsaw and this is the result:

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