

Preparatory education in Espoo

This guide is an introduction to preparatory education in Espoo.



ENGLANTI

Who is preparatory education intended for?

Preparatory education is intended for children and young people aged 7–16 who do not yet speak Finnish. The children and

young people can attend school through preparatory education even if they do not have a residence permit in Finland.

What does preparatory education mean?

Preparatory education refers to teaching where the pupil learns the Finnish language and obtains skills needed to study different subjects.

The instruction language of preparatory education is Finnish. There are 23–26

hours of teaching per week. Preparatory education is provided for about a year.

The pupils are taught by a teacher in a small group with few pupils. The group also has a classroom assistant who helps the pupils during lessons.

What is the goal of preparatory education?

Preparatory education helps pupils

1. become familiar with the Finnish school environment
2. learn Finnish

3. move on from preparatory education to general education, that is, ordinary education.

What do pupils study in preparatory education for primary school?

In grades 1–6, pupils study

- Finnish
- Mathematics
- English
- Environmental studies
- Physical education
- Music

- Visual arts
- Handicrafts

In addition to these subjects, history and social studies are studied in grades 4–6. And the final addition to the subjects pupils study is Swedish in grade 6.

What do pupils study in preparatory education for lower secondary school?

In grades 7–9, pupils study

- Finnish
- History and social studies
- Mathematics
- Health education
- English
- Physics
- Swedish
- Chemistry
- Physical education
- Biology
- Music
- Geography
- Visual arts
- Home economics
- Handicrafts



Pupils are given curricula

A curriculum is prepared for each pupil. The curriculum is a plan that states the goals for the pupil's school attendance.

The teacher, the pupil and their guardian(s) prepare the curriculum together.

What is Wilma?

Wilma is a digital programme used in schools. Wilma can be used on a computer or mobile phone.

In Wilma, the teacher, the pupil and their guardian(s) can send messages to each other. Wilma also has the pupil's timetable.

Which Espoo schools provide preparatory education?

Preparatory education is provided at many schools in Espoo. If preparatory education is not available at the school located closest to the pupil's home, the pupil must attend another school. The pupil can travel to school by bus, train or metro.

If the journey to school is long, the pupil can be provided with a ticket that covers the journey. The pupil's guardian must apply for the ticket from the pupil's

school. The ticket is free of charge, which means that the school pays for it.

Pupils in grades 1–2 are provided with a ticket if the journey to school is over 3 kilometres.

Pupils in grades 3–9 are provided with a ticket if the journey to school is over 5 kilometres.



What should pupils bring to school?

- A backpack and a pencil case.
- Comfortable and stretchy clothes for physical education classes.

What do pupils get for free from school?

- Books and notebooks
- Pens and erasers
- Lunch

I want my child or young person to attend preparatory education.

What should I do?

Apply for a place in preparatory education for your child or young person as soon as the child or young person has arrived in Finland.

In Finland, the school year begins in the second week of August and ends in week 22. However, you can apply for a place in preparatory education all year round.

More information on preparatory education can be found on the website of the City of Espoo.

How to apply for a place in preparatory education

Send an email to valmistava@espoo.fi

1. Write in your email "I am applying for a place in preparatory education for my child."
2. Write in your email
 - the names of your children's guardians
 - the names and dates of birth of all your school-age children
 - your home address in Espoo
 - the country from which you moved to Finland.
3. Then, wait for an answer. The Preparatory Education Coordinator will respond to your message as soon as possible. The coordinator will send you further instructions.



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City of Espoo, Finnish Basic Education
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