

Welcome to school!

Information for guardians of new first-graders

school year 2025–2026



The beginning of the school journey is an important and exciting step in a child's life. This new phase includes new habits, roles, rules, friends and adults, as well as a variety of learning environments. Basic education aims to support children's overall growth and learning by providing them with knowledge and skills that are needed now and in the future. In addition to academic skills, soft skills are also practised on a daily basis.

At school, every pupil's personality and the way they learn are taken into consideration. It is important that we work together to ensure the best possible school journey for each child. We encourage you to actively collaborate with the school in matters involving your child.

How to enrol a child in the 1st grade of comprehensive school

You must enrol your child in the 1st grade of comprehensive school **between 8 and 20 January 2025** through the Wilma system at espoo.inschool.fi, where you will need to fill in the form Application for 1st grade of comprehensive school. To create a personal Wilma user account, please use the key code indicated in the personal notification letter you received with this brochure. Remember to make a note of your Wilma user ID and password.

If you are unable to use Wilma, you can fill in a paper form at espoo.fi/en/education-forms. The paper form must be submitted **by 20 January 2025** to the following address: Finnish Basic Education Unit, School admission, P.O. Box 31, FI-02070 CITY OF ESPOO

Further information about school enrolment and basic education

For additional information about school enrolment, visit espoo.fi/en/school-admissions.

Do you have questions?

We will help you by phone 09 816 21 and/or via email at info@espoo.fi.

For information on special education services, you can contact our education planners via email at erityinentuki@espoo.fi.

For information on preparatory education for basic education, send an email to valmistava@espoo.fi and sara.takala@espoo.fi. (You can send the same message to both addresses.)

Important dates

- Enrol your child in 1st grade and apply to a school: **8–20 January 2025**
- Entrance examination for English-language education: **29–30 January 2025**
- Entrance examinations for bilingual education (Finnish-English) and Swedish-language immersion education: **30–31 January 2025**
- Apply for afternoon activities of basic education through Wilma: **25 April–11 May 2025**
- Register for morning and afternoon care provided by Disability Services through Wilma: **10 February – 31 March 2025**
- Apply for mother tongue instruction for your child through Wilma: **1 January – 30 April 2025**
- Apply for school transport benefit by **9 May 2025**
- School introductory events for guardians and new pupils will be held in May. Schools will publish the exact dates on their websites (espoo.fi/school's name; for example, espoo.fi/aarnivalkean-koulu)
- First day of school: **7 August 2025**

There are 71 Finnish-speaking and 10 Swedish-speaking comprehensive schools in Espoo. In addition, there are two private schools: Espoon kristillinen koulu (ekk.fi/in-english) and Espoon Steinerkoulu (espoonsteinerkoulu.fi). For information about applying to the private schools, please visit their websites.

If your child can attend school in both Finnish and Swedish, you can choose whether to enrol the child in a Finnish-speaking or Swedish-speaking school. If you wish to enrol your child in a Swedish-speaking school, please contact Swedish Education and Cultural Services during the application period from 8 to 20 January 2025 via email at skolanmalan@esbo.fi and by phone Monday to Friday between 10:00 and 11:00, tel. 09 816 276 00.