

# Does your child need a school place?

Has your family moved to Helsinki recently? Are you looking for a school place for your child?

Here are your options:

## Local school

If the child already knows Finnish or Swedish, contact the principal of your local school. You can check the local school on the Service Map at [servicemap.hel.fi](https://servicemap.hel.fi). Enter your home address in the address field and the Service Map shows you your local school.

## Other schools

You can also get a place in a school other than your local school, for example in another nearby school. However, this does not apply to weighted-curriculum education, basic education in English or bilingual education. You can get a place in a school of your choice if there are free places available. To enquire about places, contact the school principal directly. See also the options in English-enriched education at [hel.fi/enriched](https://hel.fi/enriched).

## Preparatory education

If the child does not know Finnish or Swedish, preparatory education is a good option. In preparatory education children learn Finnish or Swedish and all other subjects in the basic education syllabus, and get to know the Finnish school system.

**Pupils aged 7–8** in preparatory education go to their own local school and preparatory education is part of the everyday instruction. When preparatory education ends, the child continues in the study group as a mainstream education pupil. **Pupils aged 9–17** receive preparatory education in their own study groups. Bear in mind that not all of the local schools offer preparatory education for pupils aged 9–17. We aim to find a group for every pupil as close to their own home as possible or with good transport connections.

Find more information and instructions on how to register on the [Preparatory education website](#). You can also contact the Planning Officer Hannaleena Maarianvaara ([hannaleena.maarianvaara@hel.fi](mailto:hannaleena.maarianvaara@hel.fi), tel. +358 (0)9 310 28105).

## Private schools

In addition to schools run by the City of Helsinki, several private and stateowned schools offer basic education in different languages. The neighbouring cities Espoo and Vantaa have some options, too. Please note that private schools may charge fees. If you are interested in applying to the schools below, contact the school principal directly.

### Helsinki:

- [Deutsche Schule Helsinki](#)
- [École française Jules Verne Helsinki](#)
- [The English School of Helsinki](#)
- [European School of Helsinki](#)
- [Финско-русская школа \(The Finnish-Russian School\)](#)
- [International School of Helsinki](#)
- [Kielo International School](#)
- [Lycée franco-finlandais d'Helsinki](#)

### Espoo:

- [Espoo International School](#)

### Vantaa:

- [International School of Vantaa](#)

## Upcoming application periods for basic education in English and bilingual education in the City of Helsinki

Information on future application periods will be updated on our website well in advance before the application periods start. If you are interested, follow the pages regularly.

## Further information and enquiries

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