

Welcome to pre-primary school!

Dear future pre-primary school pupil

You will start pre-primary school next autumn.

In pre-primary school, you will learn by playing, moving, investigating and making art. You will meet new friends and collect all kinds of new experiences. Over the course of the year, you will also get a peek at what happens at school.

Information for guardians about organising pre-primary education

Pre-primary education is goal-oriented and systematic education and guidance that emphasises play-like activities. The objective is to promote and support the child's capacity to grow and learn as well as to promote a natural transition to school. The child's learning path starts from early childhood education and care and proceeds to pre-primary education and basic education.

Pre-primary education is free of charge and lasts four hours a day, mainly during school hours. Early childhood education and care continues as a supplement to

pre-primary education in accordance with the family's needs. All children must attend pre-primary education in the year preceding the start of their compulsory education. The guardians are responsible for ensuring their child's participation.

In Helsinki, Finnish-language pre-primary education is provided by both municipal and private day care centres.

How to apply for pre-primary education

Applications to pre-primary school are submitted 07–23/01/2020. Applications are submitted via the City of Helsinki e-services. If needed, day care centres can provide a paper form, which must be returned to the day care centre. Applications to pre-primary education at a private day care centre should be submitted directly at the day care centre.

Children are primarily allocated pre-primary education places in the admission area that corresponds to their place of residence. We will send you information about your child's pre-primary education place in week 13.

Further information about the schedule for organising pre-primary education can be found on Helsinki's website at hel.fi/preschool



Helsinki

Education division
hel.fi/preschool