

The School Village

**A school where a student
grows as a part of a village-like
community**

Ilpoinen School, Turku



A Small Village with a Big Heart

What is a good school?

A school that takes care of all its pupils and helps them to succeed.



The School Village Milieu

- Ilpoinen school in Turku takes about 450 pupils from the suburbs Ilpoinen, Harittu, Koivula, Peltola and Katariina.
- The area is partly socially challenging.
- The School village is situated in a newly renovated separate building. It belongs administratively to the main school.
- The physical environment of the School village resembles a cosy farm house milieu with a market place in the middle.



A young girl with long red hair, wearing a pink baseball cap and a white jacket, is walking on a paved path. In the background, there is a building and some trees.

All Services under One Roof

- A pre-primary class 14 children, 6 years old
- 4 primary school classes 7-12 years old
- 2 small classes of primary pupils
10 pupils in a group, a special needs class teacher and a school assistant, 7 or 8 years old
- A part-time special needs teacher
- School welfare team school nurse, psychologist, social worker
- Afternoon activities
 - Daily afternoon clubs organized by the teachers, 10 h/ week
 - Activities organized by the surrounding community: congregation, sports clubs, societies etc.

A Successful Start

- Soft transition from the pre-primary to primary school.
- The nearest school principle also for children with special needs.
- Flexibility in school start:
 - Time to achieve the required skills.
 - Strong support in socio-emotional development.
 - Rehabilitation until the third grade.
 - Transition into ordinary mainstream class.
- Time for the teachers and the parents to recognize the needs of the child before the future decisions.



Everyday Pedagogy

- aims strongly at participation and student activity by making use of the child's natural curiosity, self-guidance and creativity.
- breaks the age limits in grouping.
(different roles, e.g. as tutor pupils for the younger ones)
- brings activity and safety to the afternoons.
- makes use of ICT and the physical milieu of the school.
- creates a sense of a village-like community expanding it to the families. (School village day)



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Each Friday is a
School Village Day