

### THE CARE SYSTEM FOR SMALL CHILDREN COMPRISES

- **municipal day care centres and family day care**
- **support for private care provision**
- **open early education activity**
- **open day care activity**
- **free pre-school instruction**
- **service voucher for private day care**

Applications for the allowances for home and private care should be submitted to the local office of the Social Insurance institution of Finland (KELA), which will make a decision and deal with payments. A decision on municipal supplemental allowances is made annually.

### APPLYING FOR DAY CARE

Day care means care, education and instruction at day care centres, with private day care providers or at special day care centres. Care can be part-time, full-time or shift care. A place in full-time care is primarily provided for those families whose children require a place owing to their parent's work or study or some significant social reason affecting the family. Open early education and open day care activity form part of the day care system, and are intended for the children of home-based parents. Preschool instruction for six-year-olds is provided at day care centres or in conjunction with primary schools.

The application for a place in day care must be submitted four (4) months prior to the need for care arising. If the need for care is caused by new employment, training or study, and the need for care could not have been foreseen, the application for a place should be made immediately, but nevertheless at least two (2) weeks beforehand.

A home care allowance is an alternative to municipal day care. The child's placement in municipal day care results in the discontinuation of the home care allowance.

Application forms and instructions are available at all day care centres or printable in paper format from our website <http://www.ouka.fi/oulu/paivahoito-ja-esiopetus/hakeminen-paivahoitoon> where you can fill also the electrical day care application. The application for day care is valid for one year from the date of submission. Please inform The day care service coordination team of any changes in the application, email: [educare\(at\)ouka.fi](mailto:educare(at)ouka.fi)

Please submit the printed application form for day care to the day care case management team address: Taka-Lyötynkatu 4, 1th floor, 90140 Oulu (P O Box 17, 90015 City of Oulu). If you have any questions, please contact the day care case management team tel. 08 558 45300.

The decision on the granting of a day care place will be sent in writing together with the income declaration form as electronic letter. For operational reasons or by joint agreement, the location of the child's place of day care may change during the care relationship. If the child's parents do not accept the place granted to their child and fail to cancel it before the start date of care specified in the acceptance notification, a fee for 15 days's care will be levied.

### CHILDREN'S DAY CARE FEES

The day care fees are defined in the client fee unit at Torikatu 10 2. floor. Further information is available at: <http://beta.ouka.fi/oulu/asiaksmaksut/yhteystiedot> (in Finnish).

