

Welcome to Parents' Evening 2026





Programme

17:00-18:00 Yrs 2-5 + TC Class sessions

18:00-18:30 Yrs 1-5 General info/ Yrs 6-9 Meet the staff

18:30-19:00 Yrss 6-9 General info/ Yr 1-5 Meet the staff

19:00-20:00 Yrs 6-9 Class sessions



**SIVISTYS- JA
KULTTUURIPALVELUT**

6.10.2026

OULU



General info

1. Our school
2. Assessment
3. Learning Support
4. Wellbeing goals



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Our School

- Grades 1 to 9
- 398 students
 - 35 nationalities,
 - 43 home languages
 - 224 FSL, S2 (Finnish as a Second Language) students
 - 174 FLL, AI (Finnish Language and Literature) students
- 38 teachers, 5 school assistants
- Close co-operation with Myllytulli School
- School nurse, school social worker and school psychologist



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“Where Cultures Flourish, Learning Blossoms”

Focus Areas of Basic Education 2026–2029



1. Basic Skills and Readiness to Learn

Purpose: Ensure that every pupil has strong basic skills and readiness to learn.

Impact:

A sustainable foundation for learning, transition to further studies and active participation in society.

2. High-Quality Pedagogy and Support for Learning

Purpose: Embed high-quality, learning-supportive pedagogy, shared practices and effective support measures into daily school life.

Impact:

More equitable learning opportunities and more effective support for learning in all schools.

3. Community and Participation

Purpose: Build thriving school communities in which every pupil feels a sense of belonging and participation.

Impact:

Stronger attachment to school, a greater sense of inclusion and a more positive school experience.



OIS Education

- Emphasis on the following teaching and learning methods:
 - Transdisciplinary learning
 - Inquiry and phenomena-based learning
 - Criteria based assessment and versatile assessment methods
- Student participation - Student seen as an active learner



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Assessment



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Assessment Practices in Oulu

- **Years 1 and 2**
 - Assessment discussion in November, December or January – no report card
 - Report card at the end of spring term
- **Years 3 to 9**
 - Learning discussion by the end of November
 - Student, guardian(s) and teacher(s) present
 - Report card at the end of fall term and spring term

What are written and numerical assessments based on?

A group of about ten children are posing on a grassy field. They are wearing various winter clothes like jackets, hats, and gloves. In the background, there are trees with yellow and orange autumn leaves, and a wooden fence. The children are in various poses, some with arms raised, looking towards the camera.

Assessment of the student's learning and
competence
+
Working skills

Behaviour is assessed
separately

Final Assessment

Final assessment takes place in the school year in which the pupil completes the study of a subject taught as a common subject in Years 7, 8 or 9, in accordance with the distribution of lesson hours defined in the local curriculum.

Final assessment describes how well and to what extent the pupil has achieved the objectives of the syllabus in each subject by the end of the studies. The final grade is an overall assessment based on the objectives and criteria of the subject.

[Finnish National Agency for Education final assessment criteria](#)



ABC Guides to Assessment are available at ouka.fi



ouka.fi/opetussuunnitelma



Learning Support



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More emphasis on:

- Support being provided within the classroom.
- Special Education Teachers as co-teaching pairs
- Everyday teaching practices that benefit all students.
- Early intervention and flexible support arrangements

Examples:

- co-teaching
- flexible grouping
- differentiation
- clear structure and pedagogy



Learning Support

Special Education Teachers at OIS

Yrs 1-5 Saija Laukka

Yrs 5-9 Tiia Seppänen

Yrs 1-4 Tarja Päivärinta

Yrs 5-9 Mariam Kandelberg



Learning Support



Wellbeing Goals



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OIS Wellbeing Goals 2026-2028



Goals	Action	Responsible	Time	Follow-up
Strengthen the sense of belonging to the school community	-Regular and anonymous feedback from the students (class level survey and student council and social worker Johanna's "mail box") -Regular team building activities in all classes -Reinforcing reward systems and positive competition, and encountering.	-Student welfare team and especially special ed. teachers -Student council and tutor teachers -Teachers	May 2026-May 2028	-Class level survey results -Anonymous feedback -School health survey results
Encourage healthy routines (nutrition, sleeping, physical activity, limiting screentime)	-Regular home-school communication about health habits -School wide challenges (positive competition)	-Student welfare team (School nurse and school social worker) -Teachers	May 2026-May 2028	-School health survey results -Health check ups

Student Welfare Professionals



Jutta Huotari
School Nurse



tel. +35850 371 2018
jutta.huotari@pohde.fi

Walk-in hour
on Mondays and Wednesdays
at 11.30-12.30



Ilari Junnilla
School Psychologist



tel. +35840 318 5838
ilari.junnilla@pohde.fi

scheduled appointments only



Johanna Papunen
School Social Worker



tel. +35844 703 9672
johanna.papunen@pohde.fi

Walk-in hour
on Tuesdays
at 12-13



Wellbeing Goals:

Strengthen the sense of belonging to the school community



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Every School Day Matters – Attendance Model in the City of Oulu



- Student absences have increased across all grade levels in recent years.
- Schools and families work together to support regular attendance and student wellbeing.
- We use an Attendance Support Model to:
 - Promote regular attendance
 - Prevent school absences
 - Monitor attendance
 - Address attendance concerns early
- Families play a key role by:
 - Monitoring their child's attendance
 - Noticing changes in behaviour or wellbeing
 - Seeking support when school attendance becomes challenging
- The model includes guidance and resources for families.
- Parents and caregivers are legally responsible for ensuring that their child completes compulsory education

Lisätietoja:

- [Hyvä olla koulussa! Läsnäolon tukeminen Oulussa –opas](#) (pdf)
- [Hyvä olla koulussa! Läsnäolon tukeminen Oulussa – YouTube](#) (8:02)

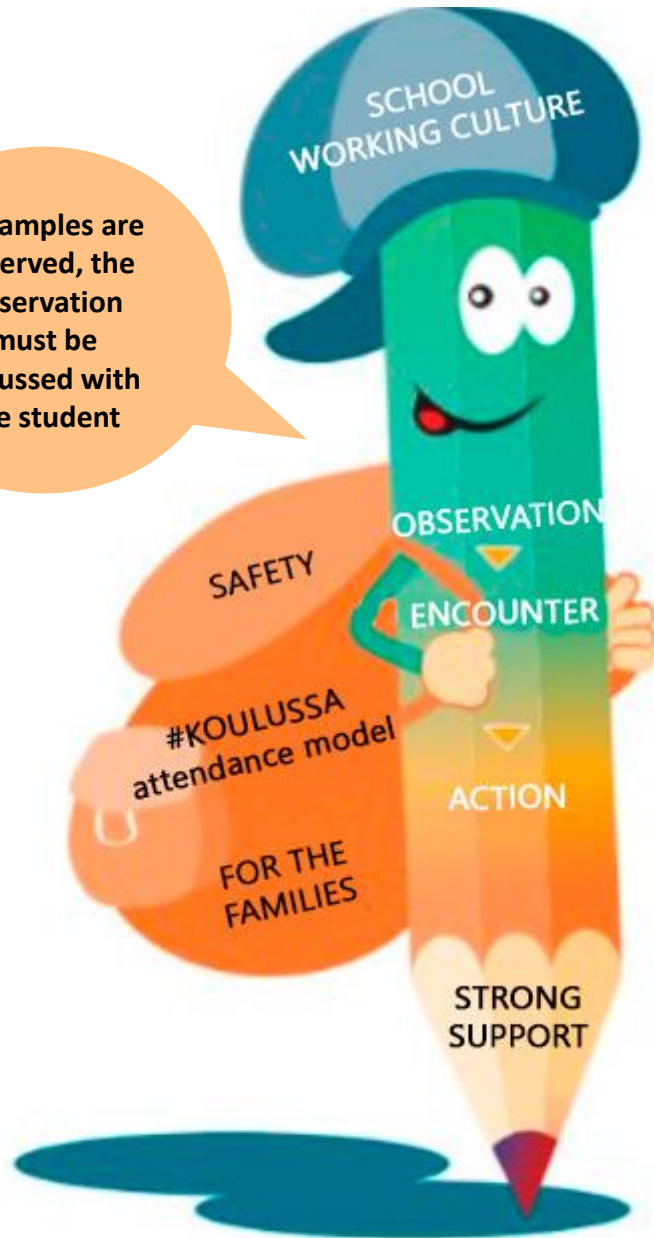


OBSERVATION

Guardians/Teacher observes the student's changed behavior



If examples are observed, the observation must be discussed with the student



PREDICTIVE EXAMPLES OF ABSENCES

- Repetitive difficulties in departing for school
- Difficulties in returning to school after a vacation or sickness leave
- Increased contact home during a school day
- Increase in tardiness
- Individual absences from classes
- Repetitive absences
- Discontinued school days
- Unauthorized absences
- Repetitively forgetting to do homework
- Student is present but does not participate
- Changes in grades
- Difficulties in transferring from one class to another
- Repetitive will to leave the class
- Difficulties with friends
- Loneliness or withdrawal
- Increased psychosomatic symptoms (stomach or head pain)
- Changes in behavior and mood

Principles of a Safer Space in School

A photograph of two students, a Black female and a white female, looking at a laptop screen. The Black female is wearing a purple and green striped sweater, and the white female is wearing a grey sweatshirt. They are both looking intently at the screen. The background is a blurred indoor setting.

1.

We greet and listen to each other, including different opinions.

2.

We speak to each other kindly and fairly.

3.

We respect each other by giving everyone space and the opportunity to be themselves.

4.

We help each other and ensure that no one is left alone.

5.

We address bullying and inappropriate behavior.



Emotional and Safety Skills Education

Every child has the right to grow up safe, and the responsibility for ensuring their safety always lies with us adults.



Parents are child's most important educator when it comes to emotional and personal safety skills!



Emotional and personal safety skills are practised and strengthened throughout a child's development, starting in early childhood education and care.



Emotional and Personal Safety Education Materials for Parents and Guardians in Different Languages:

www.ouka.fi/tunne-ja-turvataitokasvatus/huoltajille



At school we...



We practise working together, build a safe and supportive group spirit, and commit ourselves to shared rules.



We practise recognising, expressing and regulating emotions, while also learning to act with consideration and respect for others.



We learn personal safety skills and how to seek help from a trusted adult.



We practise friendship skills.



We learn to respect our own boundaries and the boundaries of others, while promoting body safety and personal well-being.



We practise safe and responsible behaviour in the digital world.

A close-up photograph of two hands shaking in a firm grip. The hand on the left is light-skinned and wears a colorful beaded bracelet with green, blue, and red threads. The hand on the right is dark-skinned and wears a red beaded bracelet and a black beaded bracelet. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with green grass and a white sky.

OIS STUDENT TEAMS

School year 2026-27

- **Student council**
- **Tutor Students (tukioppilaat)**
- **Movees**
- **Football referees**
- **Eco Team members**
- **Mentor Students**
- **Library Reps**



Wellbeing Goals:

Encourage healthy routines:

- eating habits
- limiting screentime
- sleeping
- physical activity



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Eating Habits

- Yrs 4-5: 47% (girls), 82% (boys) eat breakfast every school morning *
- Yrs 8-9: 63% (girls), 79% (boys) eat breakfast every school morning *
- Yrs 8-9: 54% (girls), 71% (boys) eat school lunch daily *
- "Empty plate" lesson note in Wilma
- Aim is to create more positive attitude towards school lunch.
- Our wish is that families support **positive attitudes towards school meals**. School lunch provides an opportunity to enjoy a balanced meal, try new foods, and share a mealtime experience with peers.

*Source: School Health Survey, 2025, Oulu International School

Healthy Digital Device Use (Ages 0-13) by THL (Finnish Institute of Health and Welfare)



Recommendations in brief:

- A personal smartphone or use of social media services is not recommended for children under 13.
- Adults
 - guide and supervise device use
 - set boundaries to support a balanced daily life
 - explore and discuss digital content together with the children.
- Prioritize sleep, exercise, play, reading, and social interaction.
- Follow age-based recommendations:
 - 0-2 years: no screentime
 - 2-10 years: ≤ 1 hour/day
 - 11-13 years: ≤ 2 hours/day
- Choose age-appropriate, developmentally beneficial content.



Physical activity

- One of the responsibilities of schools is to encourage physically active lifestyle
 - under the Basic Education Act
- Only 20% of 8th and 9th grader and 40 % of the 4th and 5th graders are physically active for at least one hour a day. *
- More than 88% has at least one hobby per week. *
- Move tests for 5th and 8th graders

Harrastamisen aarrearkku, Hobbies in schools

- Free hobby activities for year 1-9 students mainly after the school day.
- In all schools and is based on the hobby wishes of children and young people.
- You can find the schools' hobby calendars on a common electronic platform, through which you can also register for **clubs offered at your own school, or for clubs in nearby schools**, if there is room in them.
- Schools also offer hobby groups and clubs implemented with the City's club funding. Schools inform about their own clubs at the beginning of each term (see Wilma).
- **Welcome to try out a new hobby - Check out available clubs**
- <https://www.ouka.fi/opiskelu-perusopetuksessa/kerhot-ja-harrastaminen>
- **Hobbies and financial support**
- <https://www.ouka.fi/hyvinvoiva-oululainen/harrastukset-ja-harrastamisen-taloudellinen-tuki>



Drop-off point



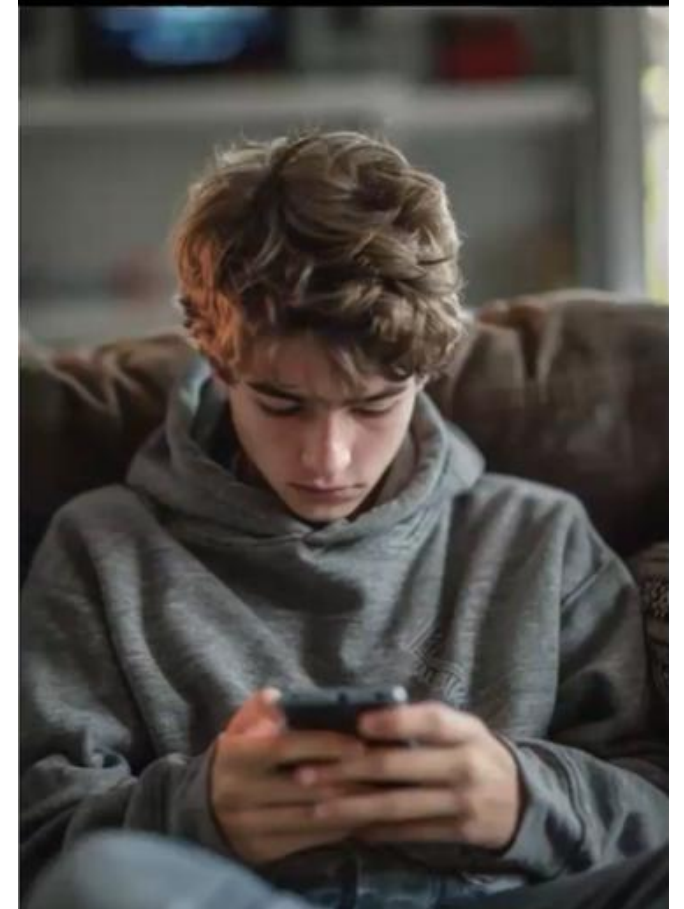
- Drive carefully!
- Speed limit 10km/h.
- Drive all the way up to the very end of the driveway (near the PYP entrance) to the student drop-off point.
- Do not stop or park your car in any of the teachers' parking spaces.
- Taxis only on Valjastehtaankatu.
- NO PARKING between 6-16, other than two 30 min. visitor spots with a parking disc.

Additional info

Supporting Children's and Young People's Development in the Use of Digital Devices



- Children in the 2020s grow up surrounded by digital devices. In this ten-video series, brain researcher Mona Moissala presents key ways to support healthy brain development in the digital age.
- [Supporting children's and young people's development in the use of digital devices – YouTube](#)
- Episode 1: Different brain regions mature at different rates
- Episode 2: Smart devices are like sweets
- Episode 3: Brain plasticity
- Episode 4: Is all screen time harmful?
- Episode 5: Effects of excessive screen time
- Episode 6: Smart devices and concentration
- Episode 7: The importance of boredom
- Episode 8: More screen-free time
- Episode 9: Shared family rules for digital gaming
- Episode 10: The importance of sleep



MOVE!- mittaukset

MOVE!-mittaukset kertovat lasten ja nuorten fyysisestä toimintakyvystä nyt, mutta myös siitä, miten he mahdollisesti jaksavat jatko-opinnoissa, työelämässä ja iän karttuessa.



**Mittaukset 5. ja
8. luokilla
liikuntatunneilla
tai erillisenä
mittauspäivänä**

Mittauksissa mitataan:

- kestävyyttä
- liikkumistaitoja
- liikkuvuutta
- lihasvoimaa

Missä tuloksia hyödynnetään:

- kouluterveyden-
huollossa
- opetuksessa
- **tuen tarpeen
tunnistamisessa**
- lasten ja nuorten
hyvinvoinnin
edistämisessä
valtakunnallisesti

Tutustu
Move!-
mittauksiin



Tulokset alimmassa kolmanneksessa?



Oppilas ja/tai perhe voidaan ottaa seurantakäynnille kouluterveydenhoitoon tai ohjata koululiikuntaneuvontaan.

Koululiikuntaneuvontaa Oulun kouluilla

Lukuvuonna 2026-2027 Hyvinvointi kOuluun -hanke tarjoaa oululaisille oppilaille koululla maksutonta liikuntaneuvontaa oman fyysisen toimintakyvyn vahvistamiseen ja hyvinvoinnin edistämiseen.

Tutustu
koululiikuntaneuvontaan



Useful Recommendations and Support Services

Recommendations for Using Digital Media



National Recommendations for the Recreational Use of Digital Devices for Ages 0–13

Scan the QR code to open the resource



City of Oulu Recommendations for Everyday Digital Life

Scan the QR code to open the resource

Explore These Resources



Hobbies and Financial Support for Participation

Scan the QR code to open the resource



Pohde Reittis – Towards Wellbeing

Scan the QR code to open the resource



Wishing all OIS families a successful academic year!