

2020-06-12 Conv Group: Education Systems

Adapted from <https://schooladvisor.my/articles/15-amazing-facts-about-finlands-education-system/>



Finland's education system is thought by many people to be one of the best in the world.

- 1. How is Finland's system the same as or different from the one you grew up with?**
- 2. What aspects do you think are good? Bad?**
- 3. What questions would you like to ask a Finnish educator about their system?**

In Finland:

- 1. Children don't start school until age 7.**
- 2. Children are not measured at all during the first 6 years of school. They only have a centralized exam once, at age 16.**
- 3. All children, regardless of capability, are taught in one classroom with class assistants.**
- 4. Elementary school students get 75 minutes of recess a day. They also get a 15-minute break after every lesson.**
- 5. 66% of students go to college.**
- 6. 43% attend vocational school. At age 16, students can decide to attend high school to prepare for university or to enter vocational training.**

Teachers

- 1. Teachers only spend 4 hours a day in the classroom. They take 2 hours a week for professional development.**
- 2. All teachers must have a master's degree, which the government pays for.**
- 3. The national curriculum is only a guideline. Teachers may decide the best educational methods for their students.**
- 4. Teachers are selected from the top 10% of graduates.**
- 5. Teachers are effectively given the same status as doctors and lawyers.**
- 6. A teacher stays with the same group of students for five years.**

