Education lies at the Heart of Society

In recent years, thanks to a first-rate system of education, Finland has performed well in international comparisons in various economic and social sectors. Success factors also include a high-quality health care system, well-functioning and highly transparent public institutions, an environmentally friendly approach in decision-making processes and smoothly functioning business environments.

Global Gender Gap
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2. Norway
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4. Sweden
5. Ireland
6. Rwanda
7. Philippines
8. Switzerland
9. Slovenia
10. New Zealand

Human Capital Index
1. Finland
2. Norway
3. Switzerland
4. Canada
5. Japan
6. Sweden
7. Denmark
8. Netherlands
9. New Zealand
10. Belgium

Networked Readiness Index
1. Singapore
2. Finland
3. Sweden
4. Netherlands
5. Norway
6. Switzerland
7. United States
8. United Kingdom
9. Luxembourg
10. Japan

Governments’ Effectiveness
1. Finland
2. Singapore
3. Denmark
4. Sweden
5. Norway
6. Switzerland
7. Canada
8. Netherlands
9. New Zealand
10. Hong Kong

We believe education creates wellbeing, builds democracy and reduces inequalities between regions and social groups.

Education in Finland focuses on fostering equal educational opportunities and high-quality education so that we can develop a competent workforce both in good times and bad times.

Better competitiveness and education and research that are more international help ensure society. The main school reforms between 2016 and 2018 involve new pedagogy, new learning environments and the digitalisation of education. A creative school is in tune with the real world.

We aim to reduce the number of young people who are neither studying nor working.

One of the most notable events in the history of Finland is the introduction of the Finnish comprehensive school system. It is also one of the mainstays of our wellbeing.

In the wake of industrialisation in Finland, new types of education were needed, and a consensus agreement was reached in the 1960s to provide high-quality comprehensive school education for the whole population regardless of social background or geographical location.

We invest in knowledge and skills. Finland soon evolved into a modern information society. Today, Finland uses its policies in education, science and technology sustainably to boost creativity and competitiveness. Moreover, nature is a valuable asset for Finnish people. International collaboration in the field of education is an important instrument in promoting global wellbeing.

Our schools help students grow into citizens with global outlook.

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Education in Finland focuses on financially equal education that is also emotionally and morally supportive. Equally important is quality education so that we can safeguard a competent labour force both in good times and bad times.

Better cooperation and education and research that are more institutionalised help improve society. The main values of education between mental and a real increase the quality of school environments and the utilisation of education. A creative school is in tune with the real world.

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The Finnish education system offers everybody equal opportunities for learning, irrespective of domicile, gender, socio-economic status or linguistic background.

**LIFELONG LEARNING**

High-quality and accessible early child-care is provided to all children. They have the right to primary education, which includes special education and remedial teaching. As a rule, school meals, health care, dental care, commuting, and various kinds of professional training are also available.

**STEAM**

Primary and lower secondary education (a.k.a. basic education) is completely free of charge, comprising instruction, school material, school meals, health care, dental care, commuting, and various kinds of professional training.

More than 90% of each age group moves on to secondary education. All those who complete upper secondary education, both general and vocational, become eligible for college or university studies. About 30% of 16–24-year-olds are in college or university education.

Vocational education and training is focused, implemented and evaluated in collaboration with working life. The basic principle of college work life-connection is based on learning outcomes, availability and flexibility.

A curriculum for compulsory school education comprises general education and different types of professional training. In comprehensive school, the classes are mixed. Teachers from pre-primary schools and those from secondary schools also give lessons for adult education.

A school of adult education offers a wide range of both subject studies and recreational activities.

**PROFESSIONAL**

Teachers from pre-primary schools and those from secondary schools are responsible for their own content. They work independently and support each other.

**EMPOWERMENT**

The education system is strongly based on school autonomy and the teacher’s professional responsibility. By means of objectives stated in legislation and based on the national core curriculum, the quality of education and the implementation of learning outcomes are responsible for their own content and school paths in education.

**SUPPORTING**

The Finnish education system offers individual support to pupils in subject studies and recreational activities. Teachers from primary schools also support pupils in subject studies and recreational activities.

**EFFECTIVE**

The education systems in Finland, Sweden, and Denmark are among the most effective in the world. Both the public and private sector have increased research and competency. The volume of research is rising, which aims at a higher standard of teaching and educational quality.

**CO-OPERATION**

Administrative teams of different organisational levels (schools, municipalities, regions, and the national level) are responsible for the management of school policy in education.

**FLEXIBLE**

The education system gives each student great flexibility. Reading, writing, and mathematics are surveyed in the 10th grade. The highest compulsory course is standardised. Parents and schools in Finland enhance the school system.

**ENCOURAGING**

Evaluation of learning outcomes is based on national surveys. The results are given in a report that compares the learning, learning, and learning opportunities of various kinds of schools. The comparison is based on national surveys. The results are given in a report that compares the learning, learning, and learning opportunities of various kinds of schools.
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**LIFELONG LEARNING**

High-quality and accessible early childhood education is guaranteed to all children. They have the right to pre-primary and primary education. Prime-time television broadcasts the core curriculum. Both public and private education institutions and universities have students from all over the world. Both the public and private sector have increased international cooperation and development. The aim is to ensure that everybody gets the education they need to secure employment and to develop personally high and functional skills in a competitive global society. The focus is on the acquisition of skills and the development of knowledge.

**PROFESSIONAL**

Teachers from pre-primary to tertiary education are trained, implemented and evaluated in collaboration with training life. The basic curriculum comprises work-life orientation, basic skills learning outcomes, morality as well as individually and flexibility.

**EMPOWERMENT**

The education system is strongly based on school autonomy, which means that the schools are responsible for regulating learning outcomes and school policies. Support for teacher learning and working is consequently provided as is the expected accountability. The education system gives each student great flexibility. Learning designs are recognized in the education system. Guidance services are also provided in the learning environment.

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**CO-OPERATION**

Administrative organs of different organizational levels are involved in setting responsibility for pupils and schools to further enhance the school system.

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**ENCOURAGING**

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**SCIENCE**

Numerous international comparisons show that Finnish students are among the best in the world. Both the public and private sector have increased international cooperation and development. The aim is to ensure that everybody gets the education they need to secure employment and to develop personally high and functional skills in a competitive global society. The focus is on the acquisition of skills and the development of knowledge.

**Finnish students ranked 1st among all 39 participants**

**Reading**

Numerous international comparisons show that Finland is one of the most innovative countries in the world. Both the public and private sector have increased international cooperation and development. The aim is to ensure that everybody gets the education they need to secure employment and to develop personally high and functional skills in a competitive global society. The focus is on the acquisition of skills and the development of knowledge.

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**LIFELONG LEARNING**

High-quality and accessible early childhood education is guaranteed to all children. There has been a long-term emphasis on pre-primary education for primary education.

Primary and lower secondary education (i.e., basic education) is completely free of charge, comprising instruction, school materials and textbooks. More than 98% of working-age group members take advantage of some form of early childhood education. Vocational education and training (VET) has been steadily becoming more immediate after basic education. Vocational education and training (VET) has been steadily becoming more immediate after basic education. Vocational education and training (VET) has been steadily becoming more immediate after basic education.

High-quality and accessible early childhood education is guaranteed to all children. They have the right to... All those who complete upper secondary education, both general and vocational, become eligible for higher education.

**PROFESSIONAL**

Teachers from pre-primary to tertiary education are highly qualified and committed. Teachers are selected on the basis of their pedagogical skills, teaching experience and university studies. They must complete at least two years of university studies and qualify as professional teachers.

**EMPOWERMENT**

The education system is strongly based on school autonomy and student voice. Schools are encouraged to develop their own educational programmes and pedagogical practices. Schools are encouraged to develop their own educational programmes and pedagogical practices.

**SUPPORTING**

Supporting... is an essential element in the Finnish education system. Support is provided in a variety of ways, from individual assistance to organisational development.

**EFFECTIVE**

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**CO-OPERATION**

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**FLEXIBLE**

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Encouraging... is an essential element in the Finnish education system. Support is provided in a variety of ways, from individual assistance to organisational development.
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Vocational education and training is planned, implemented and evaluated in collaboration with working life. The focus is on comprehensive work-life perspectives. The core of learning outcomes, as well as the individuality and flexibility.

Around half of the adult population in Finland participates in adult education and more than 10% of the adult population engage in adult education. VET and adult education offer a wide range of both subject and cross-disciplinary adult education modules that aim to improve student outcomes, as well as individuality and flexibility.

The educational innovation in the VET sector is strongly based on national surveys. The aim is to produce information that can be used for benchmarking and comparison within the country and internationally. The educational system also focuses on open science, open data, and knowledge-intensive growth. Both open data and good use of knowledge are key strengths for long-term economic growth. Open science and open data foster efficiency in society and build up social capital.

The Finnish education system is one of the most innovative systems in the world. Both the public and private sector have invested significant resources and developed the Finnish education system to ensure employment in society. High-quality and accessible early childhood education is seen as the key to sustainable economic growth. Both open data and good use of knowledge are key strengths for long-term economic growth.

The education system gives each student equal opportunities. Good learning outcomes are achieved in just average learning environments. The students are committed. Teachers are highly respected and very popular in Finland. Universities can offer a wide range of teaching environments. The teaching profession is highly regarded by society. Teachers are required to have education and training in order to teach. The teaching profession is based on national surveys. The aim is to produce information that can be used for benchmarking and comparison within the country and internationally. The educational system also focuses on open science, open data, and knowledge-intensive growth. Both open data and good use of knowledge are key strengths for long-term economic growth. Open science and open data foster efficiency in society and build up social capital.

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Global Competitiveness
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5. Netherlands
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