

Customer bulletin 26 January 2024

Due to a strike, Helsinki early childhood education will have reduced services from 31 January to 1 February 2024

Dear guardian,

JHL, Tehy, Super and Talentia have issued a strike notice for the period of 31 January 2024 – 1 February 2024. In addition, OAJ and Jyty have announced a strike on 31 January 2024.

The strike will have a significant impact on the early childhood education services. The Helsinki early childhood education unit has assessed the effects of the strike and prepared a contingency plan. Due to the strike, the City's daycare centres, family daycare and group family daycare centres will provide limited services on 31 January–1 February 2024. Pre-primary education will not be organised on the strike days and the pre-primary education groups at schools will be suspended. Similarly, activities taking place at playgrounds and family houses will also be suspended on the strike days.

If your child does not require early childhood education on the strike days, please inform the employees of your child's group as soon as possible.

If possible, we will try to keep the following daycare centre(s) open in your area:

We will try to keep the opening hours of the open daycare centres normal from 6:15 to 17:30. However, we will not know the number of staff members available at those daycare centres that will remain open until the strike days. The maximum number of children we will be able to accept to the daycare centres must comply with the legal requirements concerning group sizes and number of staff. This means that we will be unable to provide the service to everyone. Spots in daycare cannot be reserved in advance. The daily meals will be provided for the children participating in early childhood education, but there may be changes to the menu. If your child is on a special diet, please see the attachment to this notification for more information about the special diets available.

Because your child may be cared for by someone other than the employee they are familiar with during the strike, we will need basic background information about the child and the exact care times for the strike days. This notification includes a basic information form, which must be completed on the day of the strike at home or, at the latest, in the morning at the daycare centre. In addition to the contact details, please write down your child's allergies and any special dietary requirements in the form.

During the strike, daycare centre staff will not be able to administer medication in connection with a child's medical care, provide them with other special support services or transport them to pre-primary education.

Days of absence caused by the strike will be compensated for in customer fees. The Education Committee will confirm the remunerations later.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused by the situation to your family and hope that by working together we can overcome these exceptional circumstances.

With collaborative regards, Miia Kemppi Head of Early Childhood Education