Notice to guardians 30 March 2020

Early childhood education to stay open, but families are encouraged to keep their children home

Early childhood education daycare centres and family daycare will remain open despite the coronavirus pandemic. Preschool education will also be arranged for children who cannot remain at home. At this time we do, however, strongly recommend that the families that can keep their children home, do so.

The situations in families vary greatly, and the need to participate in early childhood education may also vary depending on the life situation of the family. You can discuss the situation in your family with early childhood education staff in confidence.

Come to the daycare centre healthy

Children may only come to the daycare centre if they are completely healthy. If your child has been ill, they need to stay home for at least one day without any symptoms before they may return to the daycare centre.

When you bring your child to the daycare centre, you must wash the child's hands together. You must wash the hands for approximately 30 seconds using soap. The staff make sure that children wash their hands during the day. You must also wash the hands carefully when you go home in the afternoon.

Early childhood education is arranged in small groups and any activities and spending time outdoors are organised in shifts.

Fourteen days of quarantine for anyone returning from abroad

All Finns and people living in Finland permanently returning to Finland from abroad must avoid going outside their home. When possible, they must keep their distance from other people, i.e. remain in quarantine-like conditions for 14 days. When returning from abroad, families must inform the daycare centre that they will be keeping their child home for 14 days.

Coronavirus advice

Residents of Helsinki may call the coronavirus helpline on 09 310 10024 on weekdays 7–20.

In the evenings after 20 and at weekends, residents of Helsinki may call the medical helpline on 116 117 in matters concerning the coronavirus.

You can also find updated information on the City of Helsinki website at www.hel.fi/helsinki/coronavirus-en
You can find spoken instructions regarding early childhood education and returning from abroad on YouTube (youtube.com) in English, Russian, Arabic and Somali with the search words 'Helsingin kaupunki coronavirus.'