

Frequently asked questions about afternoon activities for school children

Can I apply for afternoon activities during the school year?

It is always better to apply for placement in afternoon activities during the application period, but you may also apply for a place during the school year. The guardian will be contacted if a place becomes available. Please contact your local area coordinator or playground regarding available places.

Can I apply to several afternoon activity groups?

You may apply for placement in both a playground group and a school afternoon activity group, if you wish. If the child is allocated a place in both groups, the guardian must cancel the place the child will not be taking up before school starts. An application for school afternoon activities may only be submitted to one group.

What is the difference between cancelling and terminating a placement?

Any cancellations concerning school afternoon activities must be made in writing before the beginning of the school year to iltapaivatoiminta@hel.fi. After this the status of the request becomes

a termination with one calendar month's notice. E.g. if a placement is terminated on 6 October, the termination shall take effect on 1 December. In this case, the client fee for October and November will be charged.

Cancellations concerning afternoon activities in playgrounds are made directly to the playground in writing by the 15th of the preceding month, at the latest.

Why was my child assigned a place in a different location to the one we applied to?

The number of applicants exceeded the number of places in the group you requested. Further information is provided in the letter posted to you at home.

Can I change my child's afternoon activity group to another?

The guardian can terminate the old agreement and reapply for a new place. If the child receives a place in a new group, the guardian may have to pay double client fees for the termination period. If the changes are due to moving to another location or school, contact your local area coordinator.

Morning activities

Morning activities are activities organised for younger school children before they start their school day. Morning activities are organised at the City's comprehensive schools or playgrounds near schools. Participation in morning activities is voluntary and free of charge. No breakfast is served, but children may bring their own packed breakfast. Schools provide further information on these activities.

Helsinki

Morning and afternoon activities for school children



Morning and afternoon activities for school children include a diverse range of fun after school activities in a safe environment for children in grades 1–2 and children who have received a decision on special support. Nearly eight out of ten children in grades 1–2 participate in these activities.

Afternoon activities consist of play and supervised activities. There, children spend time together with other children, make new friends and learn to speak Finnish. Activities also take place outdoors daily. This service, which is subject to a fee, also includes a snack.

Activities at the school, near the school and in the playground

School afternoon activities are organised by schools, organisations and private service providers as well as churches. Children participate in activities in groups at school afternoon activities.

Playground afternoon activities are guided and supervised leisure-time activities for children.

Application period 23 March–24 April 2020

You should apply for and enrol in afternoon activities between 23 March and 24 April 2020. You will be notified of any placement allocated to your child by the end of June.

You can find the contact details for schools, afternoon activity facilities and the area coordinator at <https://www.hel.fi/helsinki/en/childhood-and-education/comprehensive/morning-afternoon/afternoon/iltapaivatoiminta> > Locations.

Which option is best for my child?

Where will my child's friends be?
Does your child have special needs?
Is your child independent?
Does your child understand boundaries?

You can visit and learn more about the activities.

Afternoon activity facilities near your school are listed in the regional brochure.

Operation and fees
Afternoon activities at schools
until 4 p.m. €100/month
until 5 p.m. €120/month

Afternoon activities at playgrounds
either free of charge or subject to a snack fee of €36.10/month

Families with a low income may be eligible for lower fees.

Applying to afternoon activities in 2020-2021

Specify the group to which you wish to apply on the application for school afternoon activities. There is a separate form for registering with afternoon activities in playgrounds. Forms are available in Finnish, Swedish and English. Instructions on filling in the forms are available in Arabic, Somali and Russian.

**School enrolment on
23 January 2020**

January

Information on the afternoon activities in your area is available in the regional brochure or at information events at your school.

Apply for afternoon activities between 23 March and 24 April 2020

March to April

The application form must be submitted during the application period.

Forms are available online, at the school and at afternoon activity facilities. The form should be returned to the afternoon activity location you are applying to.

Schools and their afternoon activities are closed for holidays during the summer. Summer activities are offered at playgrounds.

June

Applications received after the application period will be processed during the operating year starting from August.

Schools and their afternoon activities are closed for holidays during the summer. Summer activities are offered at playgrounds.

July

You may cancel your afternoon activity placement by the start of school.

Afternoon activities start and end on the same days as the school year.

August to September

Families with a low income may apply for lower fees or an exemption from fees altogether once they have received the first invoice.

Afternoon activities

Locations

Material in several languages