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FUTURE SKILLS



✚ Finnish education system

- The Finnish education system has been built on the belief that a nation can only fulfill its **human and economic potential** if every citizen has the opportunity to fulfill his or her personal potential.
- That has meant that **education should be available to everyone regardless of their gender or socioeconomic background.**

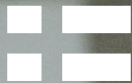




Finnish education system

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- Today, the Finnish education system is world famous, and Finland **consistently ranks at or near the top in international comparisons of students' scholastic results.**
- Even more impressively, Finland - in three consecutive years ranked the happiest nation in the world – is one of the few countries in the world to **combine high educational achievement with high life satisfaction.**
- Naturally, a **highly educated and motivated workforce** is also the **backbone of the Finnish economy.**



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**Finnish education has been
ranked sixth best in the world.**

(Legatum Prosperity Index, 2019)



Education for all

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- **All education** from preschool to vocational colleges and universities is **free of charge for Finnish and EU citizens**.
- Formal institutions of adult education as well as informal programs and online courses promote the increasingly important **principle of lifelong learning**.
- In Finland enrolment in adult education ranks among the highest in the world. **Some 85% of adult Finns have participated in adult education**.



Teachers

- **Teachers are highly respected** in Finland. All teachers are university-educated, and most of them hold a master's degree.
- Teachers also **work independently and have significant autonomy** to choose teaching methods, study materials and many other matters.





Student-centred approach

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- Finnish pupils spend less time in classrooms than most of their counterparts around the world.
- In basic education, the average class size is 20 students, and a **student-centred approach** lies at the heart of learning.
- While new technologies are actively used in the classroom, they are seen as a means rather than an end.



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**Finland's universities are considered
the highest performing in the world
when countries' levels of economic
development are taken into account**

(Universitas 21, 2020)



Learning outcomes

- An important result of this egalitarian approach to education is that **regional and socioeconomic differences in learning outcomes are very modest.**
- The Finnish system is based on providing every child with a neighborhood school that is just as good as any other school in the country.





High academic performance and high life satisfaction

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- **Finland has consistently placed near or at the top of the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**, a comparison testing the skills and knowledge of 15-year-old students in different countries.
- Finnish students also placed high in the assessment of life satisfaction, making Finland **the only country** in the PISA study **combining high academic performance with high life satisfaction**.
- One of the factors behind Finland's PISA results is the fact that **low-achieving students perform better than in most other countries**.



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Teaching in Finland

- Schooldays are relatively short, and there is no standardised testing.
- Instead, Finnish schools focus on creating a **motivating environment in the classroom, support for those who need it, and on a holistic perspective on children's well-being.**





Investing in education

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- Finland is investing in its universities and other institutions of higher learning.
- By 2030, Finland plans to invest 4% of its GDP in Research and Development.
- All this makes Finland uniquely positioned to adapt to **a world transformed by digitalisation, automation, Artificial Intelligence and other new** technologies, where traditional tasks and occupations will change or even disappear, and others emerge in their place.



New technologies

- Finland's strengths lie in excellent, relatively equal learning outcomes, a high education level, a healthy work-life balance and flexibility of the education system, making it **possible to rapidly adapt new technologies**.
- The Finnish system is also open to public-private partnerships as well as enterprise and research cooperation.





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Skills for the future

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- As the world changes, educational systems must evolve to keep up and continue to provide citizens with the **skills needed in the future** and to ensure future growth.
- Just like in the 1800s, the best way to achieve sustainable economic growth and well-being in the future is to mobilise everyone's competence and talents.
- Continuous investment in education, research and lifelong learning is **an investment in equal opportunities**.



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Thank you!

