



FISTA
Finnish International
School of Tampere

School Guide 2016–2017

Satakunnankatu 60, 33230 Tampere

050-468 2922	Principal Pia Mikkola pia.mikkola@tampere.fi
050-516 3437	Vice Principal Kaisa Kokkonen kaisa.kokkonen@tampere.fi
040-806 4362	School Secretary Leena Mäki leena.maki@tampere.fi
040-631 2469	School Secretary Päivi Aalto paivi.aalto@tampere.fi
050-406 5305	FISTA Coordinator Miika Katajamäki miika.katajamaki@tampere.fi
040-138 9504	Staff room Satakunnankatu 60
040-806 4760	Staff room Puutarhakatu 2
040-776 6322	Guidance Counsellor Heli Piikkilä heli.piikkila@tampere.fi
050-307 8348	School Psychologist Katja Karhunen katja.karhunen@tampere.fi
040-801 6814	School Social Worker Kirsi Vanhanen kirsi.vanhanen@tampere.fi
040-806 3177	School Nurse Johanna Ollikainen
040-801 6260	School lunchroom tampereenkansainvalinenkoulu.keittio@tampere.fi
050-571 3059	Caretaker Seppo Saari

The school guide can also be viewed on our website. Thus, the teachers' personal phone numbers will not be published here. Each teacher may provide one's class with a phone number at which he/she can be contacted. In addition, we make use of the 'Helmi' web agenda as another method of communication between home and school. See **Helmi** below.

Dear readers,

the new school year has started once again. I hope your summer has been a pleasant one and you have relaxed and enjoyed the leisured time.

The renovation defines the start of this school year, too. For the first weeks, we will have lunch in three different locations and the already fairly small school yard has a temporary lunchroom barrack. Fortunately, after the first few weeks, we are able to use the large wing (A-part) by Sotkankatu, which means that lunch can be had in the extension wing (C-part). I can only imagine how great it will be for the students to go to lunch within the building without having to wear shoes and outdoor clothing.

One of autumn's highlights will definitely be in October when upper graders are able to study nearly all subjects in Amuri under the same roof. Finally going back and forth between Amuri and the central square (Keskustori) will be over. Upper graders have been great in traveling there and back, a big thanks to them. Only Home Economics and P.E. lessons will be held elsewhere during this school year. In a year, everything will finally be ready and the three-year-long exception will be over. So, let's carry on together for this one final year!

The guardians are invited to Home and School Day in October, once all equipment and furnishings are ready. The more accurate date will be notified later.

At the start of the new school year, also the new curriculum and time allocation plan was taken to use in grades 1–6. In a comprehensive school, the new curriculum is partly followed in the upper grades, too. After all, we do have a common school culture here at FISTA.

The new curriculum emphasizes the student's active role and responsibility of their own learning. Learning is based on transversal competence, subjects are combined and teaching unified. During a school year, all students take part in one multi-disciplinary learning unit. Furthermore, the new curriculum encourages to learning experiences outside the school building, too. Naturally, information technology is used as assistance in teaching.

Assessment will also become more versatile and the main focus is on assessing the student's learning progression. Assessment is a part of the learning process and takes place in interaction with the teacher and the student.

You may visit ops.tampere.fi to find out more about the curriculum. Matters concerning the curriculum will also be dealt with in parents' evenings in autumn, for example.

Welcome to start a new school year, the last amidst the renovation!

Regards,
Pia Mikkola, principal



TEACHER

Altschuler Ron
Andem Christiana
Barnes Luke
Dziadulewicz Paula
Halonen Terhi
Hayes-Valkama Melanie
Jernvall Hanni
Jokela Marjo
Kaleva Victoria
Kangas Tuija
Katajamäki Miika
Kaukonen-Heikkilä Sanna
Kavén Ilmari
Kivistö Hannamari

Koivisto Antti
Kokkonen Kaisa
Kolehmainen Päivi
Koponen Kati
Korhonen Anna-Leena
Kuhlampi Erja
Lampinen Sinikka
Launiala Kristiina
Leinonen Susanna
Leskelä Marita
Lukin Maaret
Luodes Lea
Marjomaa Saara
Matala Virpi
Mattila Suvi
Meurman Sinikka
Mikkola Juho
Mikkola Pia
Mikkolainen Päivi
Murto Sanna
Mäkelä Elina
Mäki-Nevala Carita
Pajari Janne
Passinmäki Sanna
Paunu Sonja

CLASS and SUBJECTS

7B, Math, Physics and Chemistry
6C, Special Education (classes 2, 5)
4A
1A
3C
Class teacher
Art
6B
Russian
1B
FISTA Coordinator, English
8D, English, English small group
Islam
9A, Math, Physics and Chemistry,
Information technology
9C, English, French
Vice Principal
6A, English
9D, Finnish as a Second Language, English
Finnish as a Second Language
5C
3A
Special Education (classes 1, 3-4, 6)
8E, History, Social Studies
3B
Textile work
Transition class, German
School Assistant
Finnish as a Second Language
7C, English, Swedish, Spanish, German
Catholic Religion
P.E.
Principal
8A, Biology, Geography
1C
Swedish
9B, Finnish Language
School Assistant
Music
Home Economics

Pelkonen Kaisa
 Piikkilä Heli
 Rajahalme Elina
 Rantala Johanna
 Rauhala Hanna
 Reinikainen Arja
 Ryhänen Saku
 Saarenheimo-Penttilä Tarja
 Salminen Tuomas
 Salonen Marja-Leena
 Seppä Waldo
 Seppänen Emilia
 Skyttä Anne
 Systä Tapio
 Tornberg Joonas
 Turtiainen Antti

Valve Eija
 Viilo Annika
 Vilkmann Sanna
 Vuorenmaa Laura
 Wheeler Päivi
 Ylinen Minna

2B
 Guidance Counsellor
 School Assistant
8B, Biology, Geography
7D, Math, Physics and Chemistry
7E, Math, Physics and Chemistry
2C
9A, Finnish Language
 Orthodox Religion
 Finnish as a Second Language
 School Assistant
5A
4A
7A, History, Religion, Social Studies
5B
8C, Math, Physics and Chemistry,
 Information Technology
 Finnish as a Second Language
 P.E., Health Education
 Special Education (classes 7–9)
 Spanish
2A
 Technical work

Abbreviations in schedules

English	Finnish	Subject
Art	KU	Visual Art
BG	BG	Biology and Geography
Bi	BI	Biology
Ch	KE	Chemistry
Cr	KÄ	Craft
En	EN	English
Et	ET	Ethics
Fi	AI	Finnish
Fr	RA	French
Ge	SA	German
Geo	GE	Geography
HE	KO	Home economics
HS	TT	Health studies
Hi	HI	History
IT	AT	Information Technology
Ma	MA	Mathematics
Mu	MU	Music
PE	LI	Physical education
PC	FK	Physics and chemistry
Ph	FY	Physics
RE	US	Religion, Lutheran
RE Cat	UK	Religion, Catholic
RE Ort	UO	Religion, Orthodox
Ru	VE	Russian

S2	S2	Finnish as a second language
Sp	EA	Spanish
SS	YH	Social Studies
Swe	RU	Swedish
Tn	TN	Technical work
Tx	TS	Textile work

TERM AND HOLIDAY TIMES

Autumn term	11.08.2016 – 22.12.2016
Mid-term Holiday	17.10.2016 – 21.10.2016
Spring Term	09.01.2017 – 03.06.2017
Winter Holiday	27.02.2017 – 03.03.2017
Easter	14.04.2017 – 17.04.2017
1st of May	01.05.2017
Holiday	26.05.2017



Family holidays are best placed during school break and holiday times. The student's work may seriously suffer if absences for family holidays exceed one week per term. Parents are responsible for the child's studies during any extra holiday absences. It is important that arrangements for compensatory work and tests are made well in advance. However, it is not the teachers' responsibility to provide all materials in advance and plan the student's studies. Any extra materials will be given on the student's return.

STUDY PERIODS (GRADES 7-9)

I period	11.08. – 14.10.2016
II period	24.10. – 22.12.2016
III period	09.01. – 17.03.2017
IV period	20.03. – 03.06.2017

DAILY SCHEDULE

1 st lesson	8.10–8.55
2 nd lesson	9.00–9.45
3 rd lesson	10.00–10.45
4 th lesson	11.00–11.45 <i>or</i> 11.15–12.00
5 th lesson	12.15–13.00
6 th lesson	13.15–14.00
7 th lesson	14.05–14.50
8 th lesson	14.50–15.35



OPENING SERVICE

The opening service for the new school year takes place at Aleksanteri church on 25.8.2016

ABSENCES

Parents need to notify the school on the first day of their child's absence. You can send a Helmi message to the class teacher or home room teacher, or leave a message on the phone to any staff member (phone 040-138 9504). If the school is not notified, the absence will show as an unauthorized absence in Helmi.

TARDINESS

Students should come to school early and in good time so that they are able to follow the teaching. If, however, the child is late for school, an explanation for being late must be provided. If a pupil comes late to school 3 times a week or 5 times a month, a punishment will follow.

DROPPING YOUR CHILD OFF AT SCHOOL

To avoid accidents drop your child off by the stairs in Satakunnankatu street or at Suokatu street. The entrance to school is from Satakunnankatu (stairs) and Sepänkatu (gate).

HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Please try to make your telephone calls to our teachers between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm. Teachers have access to school phones only while in the school building, and there are no school mobile phones available to them, so please understand that they may not be able to reply to your text or voice-mail messages.

The school offers extensive information in English on our web page, which are updated regularly. Please note the address below, or reach us via the Tampere city web pages: koulut.tampere.fi/fista.

Please communicate any changes in information concerning student's food allergies directly to the school food services manager,
tampereenkansainvalinenkoulu.keittio@tampere.fi.

HELMİ

In FİSTA we are using the Helmi, a web-based communication system between the home and school. Parents log in with personal codes which are provided by the classroom teacher or homeroom teacher.

Login address: <https://helmi.fi/kirjautuminen/tampere>

If you have any problems using Helmi System, please contact our Helmi representative (email: susanna.leinonen@tampere.fi.)

Helmi user guide (in Finnish) is also found on the school website.

SCHOOL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

It's not recommended to bring any unnecessary belongings to school. The school doesn't take any responsibility for broken or lost items (for example cell phones). The use of cell phones during the lessons is prohibited. Skateboards and roller skates cannot be used during the breaks.

Pupils are held responsible for any deliberate damage to school books or materials. Pupils are expected to do their part in maintaining the school premises – for example, throwing trash in garbage cans and treating all school facilities with care.

SCHOOL RULES

The school rules can be found on the school website
http://koulut.tampere.fi/fista/school_rules.php.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY

School photography will take place on 05.–06.09.2016 and 15.09.2016. More detailed information about the photography will be given later on by the classroom and homeroom teachers.

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING SERVICES

Students are entitled to both individual and group-based guidance and counselling services. The guidance counsellor provides individual guidance and counselling about student's educational choices and future career plans. She also arranges introduction to working life experience for students (TET). Introduction to working life period for 9th grade students is on 14.–25.11.2016

Guidance counsellor Heli Piikkilä
phone +358 40 776 6322, email: heli.piikkila@tampere.fi

SPECIAL EDUCATION

FISTA has three special education teachers Kristiina Launiala for grades 1, 3–4 and 6, Christiana Andem for grades 2 and 5, and Sanna Viikman for grades 7–9. Speech therapy

is also provided for grades 1–5. Special education is usually provided in small groups or as simultaneous teaching. The special education teacher meets each 1st grader at the beginning of the school year. Based on the classroom teacher and special education teacher's observations, the students will be given extra support for speech, reading or other subjects. In speech therapy, students continue to study as necessary. Guardians' requests are also taken into account. The student receives individual assistance, 15 minutes weekly. In addition, exercises are given for the child to practice at home.

In reading classes, it is hoped that more serious difficulties can be prevented in advance. First and second graders are seen as the key ages for receiving assistance. Please note that at this age, it is usually not dyslexia or a reading disability. Students attend lessons in small groups for approximately one hour weekly. Guardians are welcome to observe lessons. The special education teacher assists students from grades 1–9, with challenging subject(s) and learning difficulties.

TUTORIAL LESSONS

If a student has been ill or is experiencing other temporary difficulties, tutorial lessons can be provided by the teacher. Tutorial lessons can be requested by the student or guardian or recommended by the teacher. Please note that tutorial lessons cannot be provided when learning difficulties arise due to extra holidays taken. Typically tutorial lessons are held outside school hours.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST AND SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

Pupils in basic education and their parents and teachers can have conversational support and expert consultation on request from the school social workers and school psychologists. Matters requiring consultation can be, for instance, learning and concentration difficulties, problems with schoolmates, problems in behaviour, neglecting schoolwork, bullying, matters concerning the pupil's mental health and acute crisis connected with going to school. Solutions to these problems are usually found by joint effort with the home, teacher, school psychologist and other members of the student welfare team. School social workers and school psychologists are also members of the pupil welfare team of the school. The parents can, if needed, contact the school psychologist or school social worker directly and make an appointment with them

The school psychologist helps and supports students, their families and the teachers in matters related to schoolwork, and the student's growth and development. Together with parents and teachers, the psychologist studies and sorts out problems related to the student's school work and other situations of everyday life, clarifies the need for support and treatment, and offers short-term therapeutic counseling. Parents may also contact the school psychologist directly when help is needed.

The role of the school social worker is to support and help the student in his studies and social development. An effort is made to prevent, correct and remove factors causing social disorders and social problems at school. Cooperation between students, their families, the teachers and the school health care service plays a central role here. The school social worker directs students and their parents to services outside of the school

when necessary, and cooperates with a variety of service-givers. Students can go to see the school social worker either on their own initiative, or after being asked to do so by their parents, a teacher or the school nurse. The main aims of the school social worker's activities are to support the social growth and well-being of students, and to help them to a more comfortable adjustment to school.

School psychologist Katja Karhunen

Appointment: Wed-Fri

Tel. 050 307 8348

e-mail: katja.karhunen@tampere.fi

Contact also via Helmi

School social worker Kirsi Vanhanen

Appointment: Mon, Thu, Fri

Tel. 040 801 6814

e-mail: kirsi.vanhanen@tampere.fi

Contact also via Helmi.

Family meeting point Nopea

Perhepiste Nopea's service is meant for 13–17 -year-old children and youngsters from Tampere and their families in early stages when problems emerge. Nopea supports families, for example, when a child or youngster's behavior is troubling, there is difference of opinion about the leisure activities or there is a lack of communication at home. The activities include family meetings, guidance or counselling. There are 1–10 meetings either at homes or at Nopea premises.

Families can contact Nopea directly (tel. 040 800 4735 / via email: nopea@tampere.fi). Working is confidential and the workers are under professional secrecy. The contact may also take place, e.g. through teacher, school social worker or school nurse, if family so wishes.

Family meeting point Nopea is a part of the City of Tampere welfare services and it is free of charge for the families.

Further information: www.tampere.fi/nopea.

SCHOOL HEALTH CARE

School nurse Johanna Ollikainen, appointment *daily* 11–12, tel. 040 806 3177.

Address: Satakunnankatu 60, 33230 Tampere

During other hours, the school nurse carries out health check-ups. Lower grade students have their check-up at the new building and upper grade students at Konttori.

The school nurse meets the pupils annually in connection with either shorter health appointments or more extensive check-ups. In short health appointments, the pupils come to meet the nurse individually from the classroom. The nurse informs homes about the date and time of the health check-up either via Helmi or with a separate form. The extensive check-up concerns pupils on grades 1, 5 and 8. In the extensive check-up, the pupil first meets nurse after which they are given a new appointment to the school doctor. An extensive check-up concerns the whole family's well-being and, therefore, the guardians are invited to the check-ups. If necessary, an individual health care plan is made for the pupil. The pupil and the guardian's preliminary information forms assist in extensive check-ups.

The nurse and teachers give first aid to an injured pupil in the case of an accident, if necessary. Primarily, the teachers send a pupil home if they have fallen ill in the middle of the day. The pupils should not, however, go to school if they are ill. In acute cases, the pupil's medical care is provided by the pupil's own health care center.

If necessary, the nurse writes a statement for the guardian's employer if a child under the age of 10 falls ill. Then, the child's parent should notify the illness to on the first day personally by telephone, via Helmi system or with a text message. The nurse contacts the parents on account of the message as soon as possible.

If your child requires a special diet because of an allergy, there should be a medical certificate for it. Matters concerning the diet are updated annually in connection with class check-ups or earlier, if need be. The guardians can fill out the form for diets related to religion and give it to the teacher.

School doctor is present on Tuesday mornings.

DENTAL CARE

Under 18-year-old pupils living in Tampere are regularly called for public dental care. Centralised appointment service will give further information.

Centralised appointment service

Booking an appointment to all dental clinics: Mon to Fri 8–17,
tel.begin_of_the_skype_highlighting (03) 5657 0100 end_of_the_skype_highlighting

Note! A missed appointment that has not been cancelled is charged 36,20 euros from those who are 15 years of age or older. The fee can be charged if the appointment is not cancelled within 24 hours of the scheduled appointment time.

Checking, rescheduling, and cancelling appointments

If you are unable to keep your appointment, cancel or reschedule it no more than 24 hours before the appointment:

- through the online appointment service, using your Internet bank identifiers, or
- by calling the centralized appointment service, tel. (03) 5657 0100
begin_of_the_skype_highlighting

On the Internet, you can check, cancel, or reschedule your appointments, and make the initial appointment to see a dental hygienist for an assessment of the need for treatment or make an urgent appointment with a dentist.

ACCIDENTS AT THE SCHOOL

Minor accidents during school day are dealt with at school. Should the accident require a visit to emergency clinic, the matter is notified to parents. Parents are also informed if a student falls ill during a school day.

Current

The city of Tampere has acquired a local resident's group insurance for accidents for basic education students. The group insurance came into effect on 1st January 2015. Local resident's group insurance for accidents replaces the several separate accident insurances the city has acquired as well as the insurances taken separately for individual events organized by the city.

Further information is given by the principal of the student's school.

When an accident occurs at school

It has been regulated in Basic Education Act 34§ that the treatment of student's accident that has occurred at school, during the school journey and in accommodation is free of charge for the student. According to the said regulation, the statement that treatment is free of charge refers to immediate costs of treating an accident, such as doctor's fee and treatment and hospital costs.

The basic education student's costs of school accident treatment and ambulance services are compensated to the guardian in accordance with the insurance agreement between the City of Tampere and insurance company Lähi Tapiola. Exceptions to this are students in classes 7–10 who are insured in insurance company Turva as far as practical subject lessons are concerned (Technical work, Textile work, Home Economics, Physics, Chemistry, TET -working period).

Student is sent to treatment by a school doctor, school nurse or teacher. The student is primarily directed to the City of Tampere health care center's clinics. In grave matters, the student is directed to Tampere University Hospital. Tampere health care center's dental clinics deal with dental accidents.

A guardian can opt for a private clinic. The location for further treatment is always chosen by the guardian.

An accident occurring at school is an accident that takes place during teaching or in a school-organized event. For example, accidents in student clubs, afternoon activity (HIP) and morning and afternoon care, when they are a school-related activity, will be treated free of charge. In addition, treatment costs of accidents in school trips or school camps are covered in case the trip is recorded on the school's curriculum or the minutes of principal's decision.

Accidents during the school journey are compensated with the exception of accidents involving a motorized vehicle. In these cases, traffic insurance covers the treatment expenses.

Notification about an accident

When an accident occurs, the school's staff member (e.g. a teacher) makes a notification about the accident as is stated in the instructions of Lähi Tapiola. The notification is printed and a copy is given to the guardian. In matters that require treatment, Lähi Tapiola's instructions for applying compensation are also given to the guardian.

Applying compensation

Guardian pays for the costs of the treatment and applies for compensation from Lähi Tapiola. Further information on applying compensation: Lähi Tapiola, tel. 09 453 2316.

Kela-compensation should be applied before applying for insurance compensation (If the student does not have his or her Kela-card when visiting the doctor, the compensations in accordance with the Health Insurance Act are applied from Kela before applying compensation from Lähi Tapiola).

TRIPS AND SCHOOL CAMPS

Travel insurance

Traveler's insurance abroad for basic education students

The City of Tampere has insured students of basic education and upper secondary schools with a traveler's insurance since 1.1.2015. The insurance is applicable in school trips abroad in accordance with the curriculum.

Traveler's insurance compensates

- illness or accident
- trip's cancellation or interruption
- being late from the trip

Insurance documentation for a trip

School's contact person is in charge of traveler's insurance documentation and insurance cards.

Camps and trips in Finland

Group insurance for accidents is valid in curricular activities

- camps
- trips of classes and pre-school groups
- morning and afternoon care trips for school children organized by the city
- afternoon activity (HIP) trips
- trips related to school's other club activity

Practical subject lessons insured by Turva

Students in classes 7–10 are insured in insurance company Turva in practical subject lessons (Technical work, Textile work, Home Economics, Physics, Chemistry, TET -working period).

When an accident occurs and the student is directed to treatment, he or she is given a Turva insurance documentation filled and signed by the principal or other member of staff.

The documentation is a commitment for the medical costs. All costs are compensated by Turva.

Turva's accident notification and internal accident notification are also filled after the accident.

Insurance does not mainly compensate material damage, with the exception of eyeglasses if they break in an accident. Similarly, damaged clothes are compensated if they have damaged during doctor's treatment.

If other costs appear (e.g. from transportation), original documents are attached on the accident notification form sent to Turva.

Material damage

The insurance and the city do not, as a rule, pay students' material damages at school. For example, coats or jackets that disappear from coat racks are not compensated. Neither lost or broken phones nor other equipment are compensated.

In accidents, insurance covers only eyeglasses and a broken helmet.

If a student causes material damage to another student on purpose, the liability to compensate is on the student or his or her guardian.

Damages to the school's property caused by a student are generally compensated by the city. Only if it can be demonstrated that the student has caused damage deliberately or in a manner deviating from rules and instructions, a student or his or her guardian may be held accountable.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council works for the benefit of the whole Finnish International School of Tampere. Students plan, organize and participate in meetings and school events. The coach for grades 1–6 is Emilia Seppänen, and for grades 7–9 Sonja Paunu.

S2 – FINNISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Instruction in Finnish as a second language (S2) covers the syllabus of the mother tongue and literature for pupils with Finnish as a second language. In Tampere, instruction in Finnish as a second language is given to all pupils of immigrant origin and returnee pupils in need of it. A child learns to speak Finnish rather quickly, but a deeper knowledge of Finnish, sufficient for academic purposes, usually takes 5–7 years. Therefore, pupils with Finnish as a second language need S2 instruction during all basic instruction.

At the beginning of the course of study an individual educational plan is made for the pupil if necessary. Instruction in S2 is given either as differentiated in-class education or separately for a small group of pupils, ranging between 1 and 6 hours per week, according

to the needs of the student. Instruction in S2 concentrates on the pupil's personal development of the central areas of language and vocabulary acquisition.

SCHOOL'S PARENT'S ASSOCIATION – FISTA PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Mission

FISTA Parents Association ry supports educational work at Finnish International School of Tampere, FISTA, by arranging flexible extracurricular activities like camps, trips and events. Through our association parents can meet each other and feel the special FISTA spirit that helps the school become an even safer place and creates fun learning experience.

The association arranges different opportunities at school in order to bring joy for the students and to promote co-operation between home and school. FISTA Parents Association arranges the popular Halloween costume party at the end of October and a spring event at the heart of winter.

With membership donations and gathered funding our association helps to finance the sixth graders school camp in England, awards students stipends and gives roses for the 9th graders in remembrance. Moreover the association arranges school photos, lectures for parents, cultural events for students and purchases small items for the school.

FISTA Parents Association ry is a member of the Finnish Parents Union and wishes parents to be active and help in the important co-operation between home and school. During the school year 2015–2016, the board members were: Minna Heikinheimo (chair), Heidi Ala-Hynnälä, Petteri Järvinen, Päivi Ketoluoto, Mervi Laaksonen, Satu Maijala, Terhi Penttilä, Leena Salminen, Tiina Sillgren and Anne Tuhkanen. Representative of FISTA is Sanna Kaukonen-Heikkilä, and she is present at the board meetings.

Support to several activities

The biggest monetary contribution has during the past years been given to the 6th graders' school camp to England. Several lectures and discussion panels have been organized to support the challenging task of parenting and upbringing. The organization has also sponsored sport and excursion trips by offering transport and lectures.

The parents' association has provided theater and music performances for the students. It has also bought some music and sport devices for the school, and also sponsored their maintenance fees.

Fund raising

For fund raising the parent's association organizes traditional events, and collects voluntary membership fees. Halloween party has been a better and better success every year, and it has attracted crowds from all the grades to join the party at school on a dark October night.

Information about meetings, events, theater tickets and membership fees will be sent as back bag mails to the students' parents.

Please join us!

To be able to work for the best of all our students and parents, the FISTA Parents' Association needs every family to support this important work. New ideas for fundraising as well as for organizing the events are warmly welcome! Every form of help is greatly appreciated. If you are interested, please send email to fistaparents@gmail.com.

We kindly ask you to give your support and pay the voluntary, 15 euro membership fee per family (or any other sum you wish to donate) to FISTA Parents' Association, account number: TSOP FI53 5731 0320 0092 31.

FAQ

Is there a dress code?

The parents can decide how the child is dressed for school. There are no school uniforms. Pupils spend some breaks outside. The parents must ensure that the child has outdoor clothing that is warm enough and suitable for the prevailing weather conditions. Pupils leave the outdoor clothing on a clothes rack outside the classroom.

What school supplies do I need to buy?

Comprehensive school in Finland is free-of-charge. The school will also provide books, notebooks and other materials needed for school. The pupils should take good care of all materials. The parent must get the child a school bag, a pencil case and personal sports equipment.

What to do if a book gets lost?

School books are the school's property and only lent to pupils. Pupils should take good care of the books. All books, with the exception of exercise books, must be returned to the school at the end of the school year. If a book is lost, the parents must compensate the school for the lost book.

Is lunch free of charge?

FISTA serves a daily lunch that is free-of-charge.

What do I do during recess?

The pupils from grades 1–6 go outdoors at most recesses. Pupils from grades 7–9 may stay inside for all recesses, but they can go out if they wish.

Is it allowed to bring mobile phones to school?

It is allowed to bring mobile phones to school, but they must be switched off during the lessons. All in all pupils are not encouraged to bring money or other valuable items to school. The school is not responsible for any valuable items, such as a mobile phone, lost during the school day.

Do I need to purchase sports equipment?

During physical education classes, a separate set of exercise clothes is required in order to keep the regular clothes clean and fresh for other classes. Families must buy these clothes themselves. For example, loose trousers and a t-shirt are suitable clothes for physical education. The pupil may also wear sport shoes that are put on before the exercise class begins. For outdoor exercise, clothes suitable for the weather are recommended. For swimming, a swimming suit, towel and a bench cover used in the sauna are needed.

PLAN FOR FINNISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL'S UPCOMING CHANGES

Year	Finnish International School of Tampere	Renovations and Expansion
Autumn 2016	Curriculum Work: Pre-school	Renovations of the wing by Suokatu begin
Autumn 2017	Pre-School begins	The expansion and renovations are completed

All of us at FISTA wish you a great school year 2016–2017!

Finnish International School of Tampere

