



FISTA
Finnish International
School of Tampere

School Guide 2018–2019

Satakunnankatu 60, 33230 Tampere

040-196 8513	Principal Ulla Hiltunen ulla.hiltunen@tampere.fi
050-516 3437	Vice Principal Kaisa Kokkonen kaisa.kokkonen@tampere.fi
040-806 4362	School Secretary Minna Miettinen
040-631 2469	School Secretary Minna Malin
050-406 5305	FISTA Coordinator Riikka Gummerus riikka.gummerus@tampere.fi
040-138 9504	Staff room
040-776 6322	Guidance Counsellor Heli Piikkilä heli.piikkila@tampere.fi
050-307 8348	School Psychologist Laura Oksanen laura.oksanen@tampere.fi
040-801 6814	School Social Worker Kirsi Vanhanen kirsi.vanhanen@tampere.fi
040-806 3177	School Nurse
040-801 6260	School Cafeteria tampereenkansainvalinenkoulu.keittio@tampere.fi
050-571 3059	Caretaker Seppo Saari
050-330 2686	Preschool Sunshine

The school guide can also be viewed on our website. Thus, the teachers' personal phone numbers will not be published here. Each teacher may, if they wish, also share a personal phone number with their class, but that is voluntary. If the teacher has not done so, please use the staff room number.

In addition, we make use of the 'Helmi' web agenda as the main method of communication between home and school. See **Helmi** below.

Dear families,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! A special welcome to the new first graders, as well as the students moving here from Tammela and all over the world! All in all, there are over 780 students at FISTA this year.

I hope you have a great school year and I look forward to meeting you on Saturday September 22nd when we have an open day at school.

Warm regards,

Ulla Hiltunen
principal

Please notice!

**FISTA OPEN DOORS SCHOOL DAY
will be held on Saturday, September 22. Further information later.**

TEACHER

Abbes Jeroen
Abdel Rahman Walid
Alanen Anukaisa
Altschuler Ron
Andem Christiana
Autio Lea
Ayvasik Juuli
Babóscái Zsuzsa
Barnes Luke
Bennett Lisa-Marie
Champaneri Elina
Dzhinovska-Virtanen Mariya
Dziadulewicz Paula
Gummerus Riikka
Halonen Terhi
Harkin Charles
Hiltunen Ulla
Hurme Antti
Jernvall Hanni
Jokela Marjo
Jokinen Joonas
Kangas Tuija
Kaukonen-Heikkilä Sanna
Kautto Katriina

Kavén Ilmari
Kivistö Hannamari
Koivisto Antti
Kokkonen Kaisa
Koponen Kati
Korhonen Anna-Leena
Lampinen Sinikka
Launiala Kristiina
Laurila Susanna
Lehtovaara Miika
Leinonen Susanna
Leskelä Marita
Lukin Maaret
Matala Virpi
Mattila Suvi
Meurman Sinikka
Mäkelä Elina
Mäki-Nevala Carita
Paatola Annariikka
Pajari Janne
Paunu Sonja
Pelkonen Kaisa

CLASS and SUBJECTS

School Assistant
Islam Religion
3C
9B, Math, Physics and Chemistry
5A
Transition class, German
Biology, Geography
School Assistant
6A
4C
6B
School Assistant
3A
Coordinator, English and German
2A
6E
Principal
5C
Art
1A
P.E., Health Education
3B
English, English small group
Home Economics, Health education, special
education
Orthodox Religion
7E, Math, Physics and Chemistry,
8B, English, French
Vice Principal
8D, Finnish as a Second Language, English
Finnish as a Second Language
2B
Special Education (*grades 1-3*)
School Assistant
5B
History, Social Studies
2D
Textile Work
Finnish as a Second Language
9C, English, Swedish, Spanish, German
Catholic Religion
8B, Swedish
7B, Finnish Language
5E
School Assistant
Home Economics
4B

Piikkilä Heli
 Rantala Johanna
 Rauhala Hanna
 Reinikainen Arja
 Rissanen Merja
 Romu Pauliina
 Ryhänen Saku
 Saarenheimo-Penttilä Tarja
 Sandholm-Rangell Heidi
 Santala Marjukka
 Salonen Marja-Leena
 Savola Sonja
 Seppänen Emilia
 Systä Tapio
 Tiira Anna-Maija
 Tikkanen Erika
 Tornberg Joonas
 Tostlebe Elisa
 Turtiainen Antti
 Valve Eija
 Viilo Annika
 Vilkmann Sanna
 Vuorenmaa Laura
 Vänni Anja
 Wheeler Päivi

Guidance Counsellor
7A, Biology, Geography
9D, Math, Physics and Chemistry
9E, Math, Physics and Chemistry
 School Assistant
 Finnish as a Second Language
1C
8A, Finnish Language
3E
 Finnish as a Second Language
 Finnish as a Second Language
1D
4A
9A, History, Religion, Social Studies
2E
2C
4E
 Special Education (*grades 4-6*)
7D, Math, Physics and Chemistry, ICT
 Finnish as a Second Language
7C, P.E., Health Education
 Special Education (*grades 7-9*)
 Spanish
 Technical Work
1B

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
F2	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	09.08.2017 – 21.12.2018
Open Doors School Day	Saturday 22.9.2018
Mid-term Holiday	15.10.2017 – 21.10.2018
Independence Day	Thursday 6.12.2018
Extra Day Off	Friday 07.12.2018
Spring Term	07.01.2019 – 01.06.2019
Winter Holiday	25.02.2019 – 03.03.2019
Easter	19.04.2019 – 22.04.2019
1st of May	Wednesday 01.05.2019
Ascension Day	Thursday 30.5.2019

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	09.08. – 12.10.2018
II period	22.10. – 21.12.2018
III period	07.01. – 15.03.2019
IV period	18.03. – 01.06.2019

DAILY SCHEDULE GRADES 3-9

1 st lesson	8.10–8.55
2 nd lesson	9.00–9.45
3 rd lesson	10:00- 11.45
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

GRADES 1-2

MONDAY – WEDNESDAY

School day starts at 8:30 or 9:30 am
School day ends at 12:30 am or 1:30 am

THURSDAY

School day is between 9 am – 2 pm

FRIDAY

School day starts at 8:30 or 9:30 am
School day ends at 12:30 am or 1:30 am

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 an upper grade student comes late to school 3 times a week or 5 times in a 4 week period, a punishment (detention) will follow.

The guardians will be informed of any detention by a form sent via the Helmi system, which they must go and mark as read.

DROPPING YOUR CHILD OFF AT SCHOOL

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

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 will be updated during this term. <http://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

HELMI

Helmi is a web-based communication system between the home and school. Parents can log in with personal codes which are provided by the classroom teacher or homeroom teacher.

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

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

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

SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Daily lunch for students is free of charge and provided by the school. Voimia service manager is Seija Mikkola and staff members are Soile Salli, Taina Roponen, Minna Jalkanen, Eija Lehtimäki, Tuula Kulmala and Lau Mee Yung. The telephone number is 040-801 6260.

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.

Students are held responsible for any deliberate damage to school books or materials. Students 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 will be updated and can always be found on the school website http://koulut.tampere.fi/fista/school_rules.php

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY

School photography will take place on 18.–20.09.2018. 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 26.11.-5.12.2018.

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, Elisa Tostlebe for 4–6, and Sanna Vilkmán 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.

Kristiina Launiala (grades 1-3) phone 050 - 432 6938
Elisa Tostlebe (grades 4-6) phone 040-127 9758
Sanna Vilkmán (grades 7-9) phone 040-529 2373

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.

S2 – FINNISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

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

At the beginning of the course of study an individual educational plan is made for the student if necessary. Instruction in S2 is given either as differentiated in-class education or separately for a small group of students, ranging between 1 and 6 hours per week, according to the needs of the student. Instruction in S2 focuses on the student's personal development of the central areas of language and vocabulary acquisition.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST AND SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

Students 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 behavior, neglecting schoolwork, bullying, matters concerning the student'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 student 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 Laura Oksanen

Appointment: Wed-Fri

Tel. 050 307 8348

e-mail: laura.oksanen@tampere.fi

Contact also via Helmi.

School social worker Kirsi Vanhanen

Appointment: Mon-Fri

Tel. 040 801 6814

e-mail: kirsi.vanhanen@tampere.fi

Contact also via Helmi.

Family Centre Nopea

Perhepiste Nopea has two different services. First one is for 6 –12 -year-old children, where work pairs serve the families with children in preschool and primary school (grades 1 - 6) These are assigned according to the residential area.

The other service is meant for 13–17 -year-old 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. Family Centre 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, appointment *daily* 11–12, tel. 040 806 3177. Address: Satakunnankatu 60, 33230 Tampere, A wing, 1st floor.

During other hours, the school nurse carries out health check-ups. The school nurse meets the students annually in either shorter health appointments or more extensive check-ups. In short health appointments, the students 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 students on grades 1, 5 and 8. In the extensive check-up, the student 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 student. The student and the guardian's preliminary information forms assist in extensive check-ups.

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

If necessary, the nurse can write a statement for the guardian's employer if a child under the age of 12 falls ill.

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 Friday mornings.

DENTAL CARE

Under 18-year-old students living in Tampere are regularly called in for public dental care. 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](tel:0356570100). On the City of Tampere website you can check, cancel, or reschedule your appointments, and make the initial appointment to see a dental hygienist for an assessment or make an urgent appointment with a dentist.

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

- through the online appointment service or
- by calling the centralized appointment service, tel. (03) 5657 0100

[begin_of_the_skype_highlighting](tel:0356570100)

Note! If the appointment is not cancelled within 24 hours of the scheduled appointment time, patients/students over the age of 15 will be charged a fee of 50,80 euros.

ACCIDENTS AT SCHOOL

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

The city of Tampere has acquired a local resident's group insurance for accidents for basic education students. 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 or during the school journey is free of charge for the student. It covers 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).

HAZARDOUS WORK

In grades 7 – 9 the syllabi include work where students use tools and substances listed in the Government Decree 475/2006 on Hazardous Work for Young Workers. Notice to guardians about hazardous work is sent each year in Helmi and is also available on the school web site.

TRIPS AND SCHOOL CAMPS

Travel insurance

Traveller's insurance abroad for basic education students

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

Traveller'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 traveller'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 for 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 broken helmets.

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 by breaking the rules and instructions given, a student or their 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 Juuli Ayvasik

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.

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.

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.

Fundraising

For fundraising 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 and membership fees will be sent as back bag mails or Helmi messages 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: 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. Students 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. Students 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 students 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 students. They 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 students from grades 1–6 go outdoors at most recesses. Students from grades 7–9 may stay inside for some recesses, but they can go out if they wish.

Can students bring mobile phones to school?

Students are 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 student 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.

All of us at FISTA wish you a great school year 2018–2019!

Finnish International School of Tampere

