

## **Welcome to school and first grade!**

**Incoming first graders enrol in school between 8 – 22 January 2024.**

Your child will start first grade next autumn. Compulsory education begins in the year the child becomes seven years old. In Lahti, there are altogether 1100 children that start their school.

## **A good start to the child's schooling through cooperation**

Starting school is a significant thing for a child as there are many new things ahead. Schools also wait for the newcomers eagerly.

It is important for the child to feel that school work is a natural part of everyday life. Diverse and confidential cooperation between home and school provides significant support for the child's well-being and schooling. The child finds the school safe and attends school gladly when the parents and teachers cooperate.

In May, schools will arrange, as far as possible, a familiarisation day for newcomers and their guardians.

**In the basic education of the City of Lahti we are building a sustainable future, where the starting point is children of comprehensive well-being and capabilities!**

## Enrol your child in school between 8 – 22 January 2024

Future first graders are enrolled in school electronically in the Wilma service with guardians' login credentials.

Enrol your child in school during the enrolment period even if a deferral or a place in preparatory class is applied for, or if he or she needs special support.

Inform the principal of your local school if your child does not start school in one of the schools of the City of Lahti.

If you are unable to enrol electronically, print out the enrolment form during the enrolment period at [www.lahti.fi/ekaluokalle](http://www.lahti.fi/ekaluokalle) or contact the school where you are enrolling your child or applying for admission. Return the completed enrolment form by 3pm on 22 January 2024 to the school secretary at the school where you are applying for admission.

## Which school will the child go to?

**The child will be assigned to a local school in the catchment area determined by the home address.**

The City of Lahti is divided into three areas: northern, southern, and eastern area. Each area has several catchment areas. Guardians accept the assigned school or, alternatively, apply for a place for the future first grader in another school, a bilingual school, a private school or a school in another municipality. The local school for Swedish-speaking children is Svenska Skolan i Lahtis.

In Lahti, the school principals make the decisions on admission, which are sent to guardians by 5 April 2024.

## Guardian's Wilma ID for electronic enrolment

**Create a Wilma ID at [lahti.inschool.fi/connect](http://lahti.inschool.fi/connect)**

Wilma ID is created through suomi.fi identification, for which you will need a Finnish personal identity number. If you already have a Wilma ID of the City of Lahti, use it to enrol the future first grader in school.

See the instructions at <https://lahti.inschool.fi/news/8759>.

**If you don't have a Finnish personal identity number, enrol your child in school using a paper form or by contacting your nearest school.** The paper form can be printed out at [www.lahti.fi/ekaluokalle](http://www.lahti.fi/ekaluokalle).

## Application for afternoon activities

**You can apply for a place for your child in afternoon activities in April.**

Afternoon activities provide children with safe leisure activities that support their healthy growth. Afternoon activities are organised on school days. There is a monthly fee for the activities, which includes, among other things, guided activities and a snack.

Application for afternoon activities takes place through the Wilma service with the same ID as school enrolment. **Application period for afternoon activities is 1 – 19 April 2024.** Guardians will be notified of a granted place in afternoon activities by the end of June.

**More information on starting school** is available at the City of Lahti website [www.lahti.fi/ekaluokalle](http://www.lahti.fi/ekaluokalle) and school principals.