

Welcome to school and first grade!

Incoming first graders can be enrolled for school during the period 7–21 January 2025.

Your child is due to start first grade next autumn. Compulsory education begins in the year the child turns seven years old. In Lahti, there are approximately 1,000 children starting school.

Ensuring a good start to each child's schooling through cooperation

Starting school is a big deal for a child, as there are many new things ahead. Schools are also eagerly awaiting their new pupils.

It is important for the child to feel that school work is a natural part of everyday life. Comprehensive and confidential cooperation between home and school provides significant support for the child's well-being and schooling. The child will feel safe at school and be happy to attend if the parents and teachers cooperate.

In May, schools will hold a familiarisation day for new pupils and their guardians.

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

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Enrol your child for school during the period 7–21 January 2025

The next year's first graders can be enrolled in school electronically via a form in the Wilma service, accessed with the guardians' login credentials, during the application period.

Please inform the principal of your local school if your child will not be starting school in one of the schools of the City of Lahti.

If you are unable to enrol your child electronically, print out the enrolment form during the enrolment period from www.lahti.fi/ekaluokalle or contact the school where you are enrolling your child or applying for admission. Return the enrolment form by 3pm on 21 January 2025 to the school secretary at the school where you are applying for admission for your child.

If your child is entitled to special support or falls within the scope of extended compulsory education, their school place will be assigned as part of the review of their support for learning in March, and enrolment via Wilma will not be open in January. The school place and learning support arrangements will be discussed with the guardians at separate meetings, which will be held at the pre-primary education unit in February.

Which school will my child go to?

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

New pupils will be assigned a place at the local school for the catchment area they live in. Guardians accept the assigned school or, alternatively, apply for a place for the future first grader at 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 the end of February.

Guardian's Wilma credentials for electronic enrolment

Before enrolling your child for school, **please familiarise yourself carefully with the instructions.** You can find the instructions at <https://lahti.inschool.fi/news/8759>.

If you do not have Wilma credentials, you can create them at lahti.inschool.fi/connect.

Wilma credentials are created through the suomi.fi identification service, for which you will need a Finnish personal identity number.

If you already have Wilma credentials, add the child who is due to start school to the same credentials using the instructions above.

If you don't have a Finnish personal identity number, enrol your child for school using a paper form or by contacting your nearest school. The paper form can be printed out at www.lahti.fi/ekaluokalle.

Application for afternoon activities

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

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

Applications for afternoon activities are submitted through the Wilma service with the same credentials as for school enrolment. The application period for afternoon activities is 1–17 April 2025 and guardians will be notified if their child has been granted place at afternoon activities by the end of June.

More information on starting school is available on the City of Lahti website www.lahti.fi/ekaluokalle and from the schools' principals.