



**WELCOME TO THE FAMILY EVENING
FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS (CLASS OF 2026) 3.9.2026**

Pyynikin lukio

Upper Secondary School

- About 625 students, of which 240 first-year students
 - 50 students in the Music and Musical Theatre Programme
 - 25 students in the Bilingual Study Programme (BSP)
 - 27 students in the English Study Programme (ESP)
- 45 full-time staff members
- The school also hosts a TUVA group operated by Tredu, providing preparatory education for upper secondary studies



Bilingual Study Programme

- Main language of instruction: Finnish, English is used as a supporting language
- For students who want to study in a Finnish upper secondary school but need additional support in Finnish, good English skills required
- Finnish language skills developed through preparatory Finnish studies and S2 courses
- Goal to take the Finnish-language Matriculation Examination
- Students are encouraged to use Finnish both at school and in their free time.



English Study Programme

- Fully English-medium programme launched on 1 August 2026
- Follows the same curriculum as Finnish-language upper secondary school programmes
- All instruction is provided in English
- English-language Matriculation Examination available from 2028
- Intended for students who do not speak Finnish or Swedish
- Applicants are eligible if they have attended a Finnish comprehensive school for a maximum of three years





Music and Musical Theatre Programme

- Students of the Music and Musical Theatre Programme may skip studies in certain compulsory subjects that they do not intend to include in the Matriculation Examination.
- A wide range of music and musical theatre courses is open to all students at the school!



Finnish "lukio"

- A "lukio" is an academically oriented upper secondary school in Finland.
- Students usually begin at the age of 16 after completing comprehensive school.
- Studies normally last 3 years.
- The goal is to prepare students for:
 - the Finnish Matriculation Examination
 - university and higher education studies
 - broad general knowledge and critical thinking

Curriculum

- The standard study time is 3 years, but it can be extended up to 3.5 or 4 years.
 - Extending studies is arranged in consultation with the guidance counsellor.
- Students must complete at least 150 credits, typically organised as 75 study units worth 2 credits each.
- There are about 50 **compulsory study units** for all students; the remaining studies are selected from **national and school-specific optional study units**.
- One 2-credit study unit usually includes about 20 lessons plus a full school day during the assessment week.





Subjects studied at Finnish lukio

- Finnish as a Second Language
- Foreign languages: English, Swedish, Spanish...
- Mathematics
- Biology, Geography, Physics, Chemistry
- History and Social Studies
- Religion or Ethics
- Psychology and Philosophy
- Physical Education, Health education
- Visual Arts and Music

1st
year

Christmas holiday



Summer holiday
or work

2nd
year

Christmas holiday



Senior ball



Summer holiday,
work or studying

3rd
year

Autumn
matriculation exams



Christmas holiday



Senior class
celebration



Spring
matriculation exams



Work, rest or
entrance
exams

Study leave



Graduation
ceremony







Learning Support at Pyynikin lukio

Subject teachers provide guidance and study tips for their own subjects.

- Regular support sessions available in mathematics, Finnish/S2, English, and Swedish.

Special educational needs teachers

- Marita Kontio: groups 26C, 26D, 26E
- Mia Männistö: groups 26A, 26B, 26F, 26G, 26H, 26I
- Support and instruction related to learning and **learning skills**
- **Co-teaching** together with subject teachers
- Organizing **support measures** for learning difficulties and individual needs
- Co-operation with **student welfare services**
- LUE study modules:
 - LUE3 – Getting Your Studies Off to a Good Start (study techniques)
 - LUE4 – My Path (intensive educational support)
 - (LUE1–2)
- Toimitorstai (instruction in a small teaching group) offers additional opportunities for guidance and support.

The Special Educational Needs Teacher

- Processes information transfer forms from lower secondary school.
- Conducts digital literacy and learning screenings for all first-year students.
- Teaches study skills.
- Plans support measures and special arrangements.
- Supports learning together with subject teachers.
- Assists students with applications for special arrangements in the matriculation examination.



Students also receive support from:

Homeroom teachers

Subject teachers

Guidance counsellors

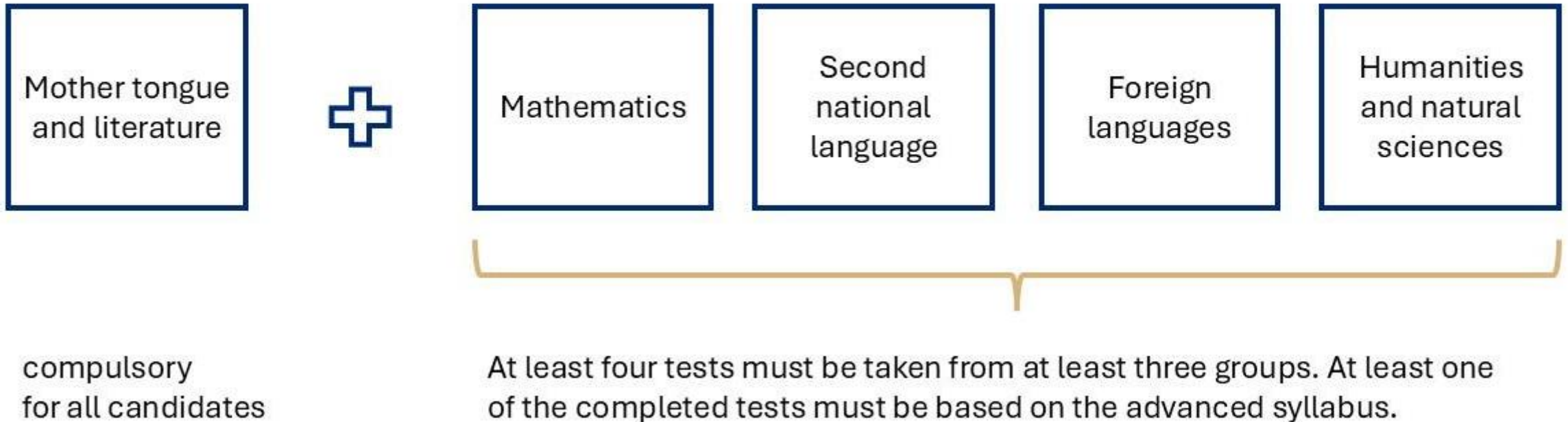
School nurse

School social worker

School psychologist



Basic Information about the Matriculation Examination

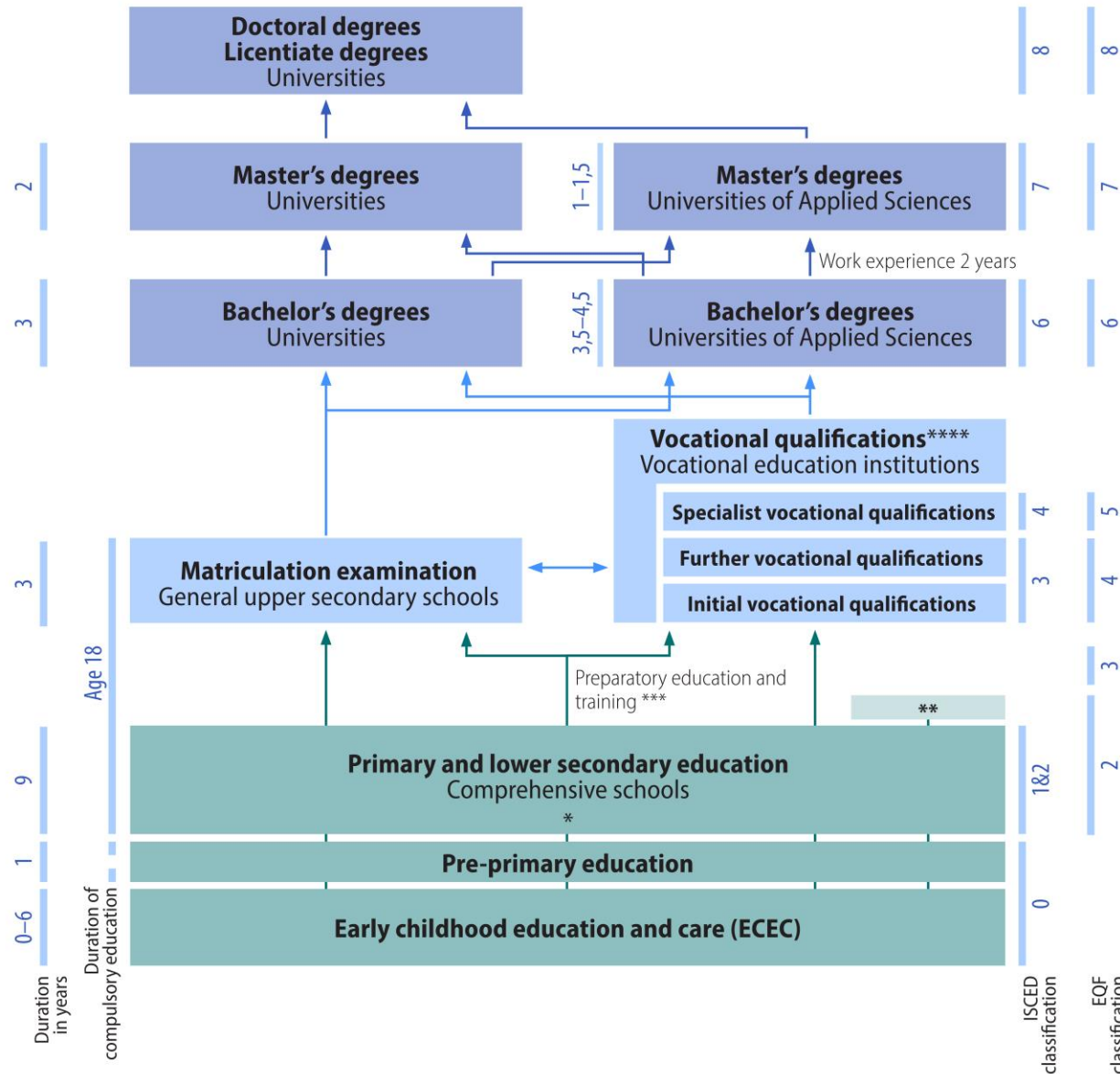


Please note...

- In Finland, students receive **two separate certificates** at the end of upper secondary school studies.
 - The **general upper secondary education certificate** shows the final grades students have received in different subjects during their studies.
 - The **matriculation examination certificate** shows the results of the national matriculation examination completed at the end of general upper secondary education.
- In Finland, admission to higher education institutions is based mainly on matriculation examination results!



EDUCATION SYSTEM IN FINLAND



****Also available as apprenticeship training or by training agreement.

***Preparatory education and training (for those who need it):

- Preparatory education for programmes leading to an upper secondary qualification (TUVA)
- Education at folk high schools for learners of compulsory education age

**Preparatory education and training for work and independent living (TELMA)

*Primary and lower secondary education syllabus for learners over the age of 17

Non-qualification education

Liberal education

- Adult education centres
- Folk high schools
- Summer universities
- Centres of learning /study centres
- Training centres for sports and physical education

Basic education in the arts

- Schools of Architecture
- Schools of Fine Arts
- Schools of Crafts
- Media Arts Schools
- Music Institutes
- Schools of Literary Art
- Schools of Circus Arts
- Dance Institutes
- Theatre Institutes

Parents' Association

