# Upper grade line choices

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# Grade 7 admissions

# Topics

1. Studying in grade 7
2. Study line options (bilingual vs. international)
3. How to apply from other schools

# Questions?

1. Leave comments in the chatbox anytime
2. Ask at the end!

# Finnish International School of Tampere

- Preschool to grade 9
- Finnish curriculum
- 860 students in 2026-2027

- Next year approx.
  110 students in gr 7





FISTA Finnish International School of Tampere

# Subjects in grade 7 (lessons per week)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Finnish | 3 | Music | 1 |
| English | 3 | Home Economics | 3 |
| Swedish | 1 | Crafts | 3 |
| A2 Spanish or German | 0/2 | Art | 2 |
| Religion/Ethics | 1 | Physical Education | 2 |
| History | 2 | OPO (Guidance) | 0.5 |
| Mathematics | 4 | Optional subjects | 0 |
| Physics/Chemistry | 1 | | |
| Biology/Geography | 2 | | |
| Health Education | 0.5 | **Total weekly hours** | **29-31** |

# Grouping for gr 7 classes

- All new groups based on
  - line choices
  - schedule considerations (for example A2 languages)
  - student welfare
    - pedagogical reasons
    - 6th grade teachers' advice

- Vice principals form the groups and make the schedules

- Teaching can also be provided beyond the home group! (languages, optional courses, smaller groups in some subjects…)

# Study line options (grades 7-9)

Deadline for FISTA students January 22nd

New students usually enter the bilingual line

**<u>International line</u> (kansainvälinen linja)**

- All subjects taught in English, except for Finnish
- 9th grade social studies and religion are taught in Finnish
- For optional subjects, the language of tuition depends on the course

mainly English

**<u>Bilingual line</u> (kaksikielinen linja)**

- Subjects taught in English are English, ethics, health, languages, skills and arts
- History, biology and geography are taught in English, except for Finland-related topics which are taught in Finnish.
- Mathematics, physics, chemistry, guidance counselling, religion and social studies (9th grade) are taught in Finnish.
- For optional subjects, the language of tuition depends on the course

half and half

# Which line to choose?

- What are your plans for after grade 9?
  - No automatic continuation to any school after grade 9

- Whichever line you choose, studying Finnish is extremely important!
  - Most FISTA students go to Finnish medium upper secondary schools
  - Limited  upper secondary options in English
  - Finnish grade affects your GPA, which is the main admission criterium to upper secondary schools, including the English medium programs
  - Finnish is a mandatory subject in every upper secondary school
  - If your only contact with Finnish is during Finnish lessons, it's not a lot of time to learn

- Talk to your child's class teacher and Finnish teacher!
  - talk with the guidance counsellor/opo if necessary

# Upper secondary in English
# 1/3: Lukio

**Pyynikin lukio, Bilingual Study Programme**

- Started in 2025
- Main language of tuition is Finnish; English is a secondary, supporting language.
- Final exams in Finnish!

**Pyynikin lukio, English Study Programme**

- Started in 2026
- Final exams in English
- But only for students who have attended school in Finland for less than 3 years –> NOT AN OPTION

# Upper secondary in English
# 2/3: IB

**<u>Tampereen lyseon lukio (Rellu), IB studies</u>**

- Admissions criteria for 2026: grade point average of academic subjects, extra weight on maths and English
  - Finnish grade is also included in your GPA!
- Minimum GPA 8.2, but varies by year
  - 2026: 8.85
  - 2025: 8.60
  - 2024: 8.79
  - 2023: 8.92
- 45 places available per year
- 10-20 FISTA students go to the IB program every year

# Upper secondary in English
# 3/3: Vocational qualifications

**Tredu**

- Business
- Restaurant and Catering Service
- Tourism Industry
- Cleaning and Property Services

Not all programs start every year!

# Upper secondary in Finnish

**General upper secondary education** (with their additional programs)

- Kalevan lukio (music)
- Pyynikin lukio (music and musical theatre)
- Sammon keskuslukio (sports and communications)
- Tammerkosken lukio (visual art and design)
- Tampereen klassillinen lukio (sciences)
- Tampereen lyseon lukio (social sciences)
- Tampereen teknillinen lukio (mathematics and technology)
- Tampereen Steinerkoulun lukio
- Tampereen yhteiskoulun lukio (drama)
- Tampereen yliopiston normaalikoulun lukio (economics, circus skills)
- …and more in the region!




**Vocational qualifications**

- Tredu alone has 29 programs in Finnish
- Plus other vocational education providers like Sasky, AhlmanEdu, Varala, and even more in the region

# Applying to FISTA from other schools

- Applications open 23.11.2026 - 7.12.2026
  - Students from Tampere schools -> application in **Wilma!!**
  - Students from other municipalities -> application link on FISTA front page
- Language test on Wed 13.1.2027, exact time in invitation email (sent by 16.12.2026)
  - If you have another test on the same day, contact us BEFOREHAND!
- FISTA students don’t need to fill any applications or take the language test!
- Please note that you can’t get free or discounted school transport to FISTA

# Language test

- Written test: listening and reading comprehension, writing and grammar tasks (max 60 min)
- Short individual interviews with our teachers (15 min)

- Minimum entry requirement 60% of total points, and 40% of each section

- Results on 10.2.2027
  - Priority given to Tampere residents

Slides available at
www.tampere.fi/fista

**Questions?**

Coordinator Riikka Gummerus

050 4065 305

Wilma message

firstname.lastname@tampere.fi