

Basic Education in the Arts in Finland

Basic education in the arts is goal-oriented, progressing from one level to other. It teaches children skills in self-expression and capabilities needed for vocational, polytechnic and university education in their chosen art form. Participation is voluntary and the education providers may charge moderate fees.

Basic education in the arts differs from compulsory basic education. A local authority providing basic education in the arts receives statutory government transfers based on the number of inhabitants. Further, public and private education providers receive government grants based on the confirmed number of lesson hours given.

The network of art education institutes thus funded comprises 89 music institutes and 41 schools in the other arts.

Provision of Basic Education in the Arts

Basic education in the Arts for children and young people is provided by music, art, dance, visual arts and craft schools and other institutes.

- Municipalities can provide basic education in the arts
- The Ministry of Education can grant joint municipal authorities, registered societies or associations the permission to provide basic education in the arts
- Basic education in the arts may also be provided by a public educational institution on the decision of the Ministry of Education
- Legislation stipulates that basic education in the arts must be provided either by educational institutions or arranged in other ways

Curricula for Basic Education in the Arts

The objectives and core contents are determined in national core curricula devised by the National Board of Education for nine different art forms, which are music, literary arts, dance, performing arts (circus and theatre) and visual arts (architecture, audiovisual art, visual arts, and craft).

Curriculum for the advanced syllabus in basic education in the arts is defined for the following forms of art: music, literary arts, dance, performing arts (circus, theatre), visual arts (architecture, visual arts, and craft).

The Finnish National Board of Education decides on the objectives and core contents of each art form in both basic and advanced syllabi in basic education in the arts. However, the core curriculum may include syllabi of different extent.

Advanced syllabus	Basic syllabus
<p>Core curricula</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • music • dance • theatre • circus • visual arts (architecture, visual arts and craft) 	<p>Core curricula</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • music • dance • literary arts • performing arts (circus, theatre) • visual arts (architecture, audiovisual art, visual arts, and craft)
<p>Training structure and extent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialisation studies or music institute level • Basic studies or the basic level of music <p>These combined accumulate to 1300 lessons of study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early childhood education (The extent of broadness is decided by the education provider) 	<p>Training structure and extent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 study modules <p>These combined accumulate to 500 hours of study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early childhood education (The extent of broadness is decided by the education provider)
<p>Structure of the training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic studies or the basic level of music • Specialisation studies or music institute level • Optional early childhood and adult studies (decided in the curriculum of the education provider) 	<p>Structure of the training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching in the basic syllabus proceeds from level to another and is formed from different modules. Pupils get to deepen their skills by furthering their studies in their chosen modules. • These modules are offered based on the locally determined needs from different fields of art. • Possible early childhood and adult education (as determined by the education provider)

Advanced syllabus	Basic syllabus
<p>The scope of training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The calculatory scope of studies in the advanced syllabus is 1300 lessons (45 min each) • The scope of possible early childhood and adult education is determined by the education provider 	<p>The scope of training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The combined calculatory scope of 10 modules is 500 lessons (45min each) • The scope of possible early childhood and adult education is determined by the education provider

The calculatory scope of studies does not reflect the actual time spent with teachers, but the education provider will consider the pupil's age, previous experience, skills and knowledge and the pedagogical methods in use in order to determine the needed tutoring. Regardless of the amount of lessons attended, the overall training must suffice to meet the goals that have been set as part of syllabus.

<p>On the goals of the training</p> <p>The goals are specific to their respective arts.</p> <p>Some common goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To offer a possibility to a long term training • To create conditions for a life-long hobby • To support the pupil's ability to solve problems and personal growth. • To direct the pupil towards artistic thinking and ability to think critically. • Interaction among the educational facilities that provide this type of training • To strengthen the international cooperation • The goals set specifically for different arts are listed in the advanced syllabus of the basic education in the Arts. 	<p>On the goals of the training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support creative thinking and doing • To strengthen the senses and sensitivity and improve interactive and educational skills • To improve cultural understanding and enable to interpret them • To support the growth process of the pupil and help them to understand their surrounding realities • To direct and help the pupil towards focused long term learning processes and being a constructive individual as well as member of collective. • To improve the cooperation between the education provider and other organisations in the society • The goals set specifically for different arts are listed in the basic syllabus of the basic education in the Arts.
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Training content and scope specifically designed for pupil

If due to a disability, illness or anything of similar nature, the pupil cannot study according to the syllabus, the specifics can be designed to fit his/her individual needs.