

Applying for afternoon activities in basic education for the 2026–2027 school year

Afternoon activities are arranged primarily for first grade pupils. Any places remaining in the groups will be assigned in accordance with Sections 20c and 20i of the Basic Education Act to pupils in receipt of pupil-specific support and those who meet the criteria for inclusion in the activities who are in the second grade.

The application periods for the 2026–2027 school year are 02–18 February 2026 and 04–20 May 2026.

In urban areas, afternoon activity groups will be formed for schools that received at least 10 applications from first grade pupils by the end of May. In rural areas, afternoon activity groups will be formed for schools that received at least four applications from first grade pupils by the end of May. For groups in urban areas, the activities run from 12:00 to 16:00 on weekday school days, while at rural area schools the timings may vary.

If during the school year the number of pupils falls below the number required to establish a group, the group may be disbanded or combined with another group. No new groups will be formed during the school year.

Places in the activities and service providers will be confirmed after the end of the May application period. Decisions and more detailed group information will be sent to guardians by post by the end of June. Each decision is made for one school year at a time.

Applying

Afternoon activities may be applied for through the Wilma app for pupils in the aforementioned grades. Please use a computer to fill in the online application form. The online application form is only open during the application periods. Please specify on the application form the period for which you are applying for an afternoon activities place. For guardians who are unable to fill in the application form via Wilma, a printable application form can be found on the afternoon activities web page.

After May, first grade pupils moving to Kuopio during the school year, and pupils whose situation regarding fulfilling the criteria for the activities has changed after May may apply for a place in afternoon activities using the paper application form.

Places for afternoon activities at private schools may be applied for with paper application forms, which are available from the school or the afternoon activities webpage.

Paper application forms and the required appendices may be delivered to: City of Kuopio, Service Area for Education and Learning, Afternoon Activities, PO Box 1097, 70111, or sent as an attachment to a secure email. Instructions for sending a secure email can be found here: <https://www.kuopio.fi/en/city-of-kuopio/services-and-advice/secure-e-mail/>. Applications may also be submitted at Valtuustotalon, Suokatu 42, using the postbox outside stairwell A.

By completing an online application form or returned a signed application form, guardians commit to paying activity fees on a monthly basis.

Guardians are asked to give notice of any changes affecting afternoon activities online, via the Wilma app with the 'Change to afternoon activities in basic education form,' or by email (e.g. change to start date, termination of place, changes to the invoice recipient's details). Termination of a place at afternoon activities must be carried out in writing. Terminations will come into effect from the start of the next month. If a guardian is not able to complete the form via the Wilma app, changes may also be reported by email to: iltapaivatoiminta@kuopio.fi.

Criteria for inclusion in activities

1. After pupils in first grade have been assigned places, any places remaining in the groups will be assigned in accordance with Sections 20c and 20i of the Basic Education Act to pupils in receipt of pupil-specific support and second grade pupils in the following order:

- pupils from other grades receiving pupil-specific support in accordance with Section 20i of the Basic Education Act, who are entitled to short-term care as defined in the Disability Services Act;
- pupils in receipt of pupil-specific support under Section 20c of the Basic Education Act;
- pupils in second grade who have serious health related grounds, assessed individually and based on a medical certificate, such as severe diabetes, epilepsy or severe heart disease;
- pupils in second grade on the basis of official statements, to be assessed separately, for custody-related reasons;
- pupils in second grade needing to participate in an afternoon activity due to work or studies of the guardians, on the basis of supporting documents provided by the guardians;
- other second grade pupils.

The guardian shall provide the necessary supporting documents to the Service Area for Education and Learning's support services.

Activity fees

If the child attends a maximum of 12 days of activities per calendar month, the fee is **€120**. If the child attends more than 12 days of activities per calendar month, the fee is **€160**. Activity fees are invoiced for afterwards, at the start of the next month.

An activity fee is charged for each month when a child has attended afternoon activities. There is no rebate for schools' autumn, Christmas and winter sports holiday breaks.

If a child is absent due to their own illness for 11 days or more during a calendar month, only half of the monthly fee shall be charged. If a child is absent due to their own illness for an entire calendar month, no fee is charged. If a child is absent for an entire calendar month for a reason other than their own illness, half of the activity fee shall be charged.

Applying for exemption from the activity fee or halving of the activity fee

A guardian may apply for an exemption from the activity fee or halving of the fee with a separate application form. Decisions are made from the start of the month when the application was received. Incomplete application forms will not be processed and decisions will not be made retrospectively.

The latest statements and certificates must be appended to the **fee exemption application form**. A fee exemption is granted if the family's income is below the income limit for early childhood education and care client fees, if the family receives social assistance, or on the basis of a statement from a Child Welfare social worker. The guardian or authority must submit the statement to the school authority as an attachment to the application form.

If the information provided changes after the decision has been made (e.g. substantial changes to income (+/- 10%), change to the size of the family), the persons responsible for afternoon activities must be informed immediately. If a fee exemption or the halving of the activity fee has been granted on the basis of incorrect information, retrospective activity fees may be charged. The application and decision are confidential (Act on the Openness of Government Activities, Section 24.1(30)).

Halving of the activity fee may be applied for with a separate application form. The activity fee will be halved if the family have at least three children attending afternoon activities and/or early childhood education and care.

Paper application forms, with appendices, should be returned when the child starts afternoon activities, by post to: City of Kuopio, Service Area for Education and Learning, PO Box 1097, 70111 Kuopio or as an appendix to a secure email. Instructions for sending a secure email can be found here: <https://www.kuopio.fi/en/city-of-kuopio/services-and-advice/secure-e-mail/>. Applications can also be submitted at Valtuustotalo, Suokatu 42, in the postbox outside stairwell A.

Application forms may be completed online, in the e-services. The links to the online application forms can be found on the afternoon activities webpage. For more information: <https://www.kuopio.fi/en/early-childhood-education-and-care-education-and-youth-services/basic-education/afternoon-activities-and-school-club-activities/>

Further information about afternoon activities, and printable instructions and application forms, can be found at www.kuopio.fi/en/early-childhood-education-and-care-education-and-youth-services/basic-education/afternoon-activities-and-school-club-activities/.

Additional information is also available by contacting the afternoon activities planner and secretary by phone: 044 7181388 (afternoon activities line), or email iltapaivatoiminta@kuopio.fi (afternoon activities email address).

The phonenumber is staffed

- Mondays 13:00–15:00
- Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9:00–11:00
- In-person meetings must be booked in advance by phone or email.
- Visiting address: Valtuustotalo, Suokatu 42