

Welcome!

US 1st grade parents' evening



KULOSAAREN YHTEISKOULU
KULOSAARI SECONDARY SCHOOL

Principals' greetings



Lauri Halla

Johtava rehtori
Head of School



Minnariitta Raitio

Lukion rehtori
Upper School Principal



Riitta Kaisto

Lukion apulaisrehtori
Upper School Vice Principal



KULOSAAREN YHTEISKOULU
KULOSAARI SECONDARY SCHOOL

KSYK Community

We individuals form a community. Greet, thank, and see other KSYK members!



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KSYK students 2026-27

- **A total of 180 students started in the 26-groups:**
 - a and b: general stream
 - c: social studies and economics stream
 - d: science and technology stream
 - e and f: English stream
- **In the 25-groups:** 187 students
- **24-23 graduates:** 182+20 students
- **6 exchange students** (24f, 25f, 26f) from Italy, USA, Japan, Germany, Australia, France
- **Upper secondary total:** 568
- **Middle school:** 598
- **All students together:** 1166
- **Staff members:** 115



Operating culture is part of community spirit

1. Each period has its own theme; the first period's theme is operating culture.
2. Get to know and review school practices at the beginning of the school year.
 - Ensure no one is left alone.
 - Everyone stops bullying (0-tolerance for bullying).
 - Give others the opportunity to focus on schoolwork.
 - Remove distractions from your own work.
 - Learn skills for working together.
 - Support each other, do not compete against each other.



The Oath of a New KSYK Student

I respect every teacher and staff member of the school, from the principal to the janitor and from the school nurse to the guidance counselor. They have chosen to help us students, and they deserve my appreciation and polite treatment. I listen when I am spoken to, and I am genuinely present, not just there.

I do not strive for perfection, but to be good. I try even when it is difficult, and I allow myself to make mistakes because one learns from them. I remain curious and open to things that do not yet feel familiar. I also take care of myself: I sleep enough, I eat, I exercise, and I remember that well-being is the foundation of learning, not an extra privilege.

I want to be a member of the school community who makes this place better. I do not remain silent in the face of bullying. I do not discriminate against anyone. I do not leave anyone alone if I see that they need help.

I carry my own responsibility for our shared school: I keep it tidy, I keep the atmosphere humane, and I ensure that my own behavior is not something I would have to be ashamed of.



KSYK Theme of 2026-2027

Reading



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How can a guardian support the development of an upper secondary student's literacy?

- First-year students have a free digital subscription to Helsingin Sanomat as well as a BookBeat subscription. Encourage them to use these. For example, one could read three texts daily from HS according to the young person's own choice.
- A large part of the high school learning material is in digital format. However, the proportion of printed books has been increased.
- The model for reading comes from home. Diversity is beneficial. In addition to books, read magazines and other media. All reading counts and provides an example to your young person. Discuss what you have read.
- Make reading important: It increases general knowledge, vocabulary, and understanding of the world. If reading becomes a daily routine, it is calming and supports mental health.
- Language and thinking are connected. Austrian philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein noted a thought that has become famous: "The limits of my language mean the limits of my world."
- It is worth following how the child does homework. According to our school survey, the time an upper secondary student spends on school assignments outside of hours is quite low. For example, each Finnish language and S2 study module includes reading a whole book.
- We take the matriculation examinations in Finnish. Support your young person's Finnish language skills and encourage them to read Finnish texts.

Smart devices and artificial intelligence

- **Use of phones and mobile devices > amount of screen time.**

- Following the change in the Basic Education Act, the school-wide rules regarding the use of mobile devices have been updated for upper secondary students as follows:
 - during lessons, computers are used according to the teacher's instructions, and phones only if there is a specific need and permission
 - mobile phones or other mobile devices are not to be used in the school library
 - if dining occurs during the middle school lunch shift at 11-12, the use of mobile devices in the cafeteria is prohibited
 - we recommend that mobile devices are not used during the upper secondary lunch either

- **Ground rules for the use of AI**

- AI acts as a support for learning, not as a replacement for it
- Follow the teacher's instructions
- Transparency in the use of AI
- Use AI services recommended by the school
- Remember data protection and copyrights



Compulsory education - Wilma as a tool

- Monitoring progress of studies
- Monitoring and explaining absences
- Class marks
- Communication between home, school, and students



Upper secondary learning support reform 2025

Support for learning in Upper Secondary

- Group-based remedial instruction for all: math and mother tongue cafes, Swedish remedial study module, math remedial study module for first-year students.
- Provided to the student as soon as needs for support arise -> prevention of the accumulation of difficulties.
- Individual remedial instruction is intended for students who have difficulties passing a study module or the syllabus of a subject / studies are not progressing.
- Can be given to a student who has temporarily fallen behind in their studies or needs support for another reason. Not given if it is due to unauthorized absences and/or extra vacations.
- Forms of support can also include teaching provided by the subject teacher and special education teacher, as well as support and guidance provided by the special education teacher, guidance counselor, and other staff.
- The student has the right to support, but also the right to refuse it.

In the future, special education will be possible in upper secondary school.

- The student has the right to special education if the learning support described above is not sufficient and they need special education due to verified learning disabilities or another comparable reason.



UPPER SECONDARY STUDIES

Guidance counsellors

Salli Rantanen (26A,F), Pilvi Kantola (26B,C,D) and Kaisa
Macdonald (26E)

9.9.2026



What is guidance counseling in upper secondary school?

The guidance counselor supports students in the following matters:

- Planning upper secondary studies and subject choices
- Creating a matriculation examination plan
- Mapping out further education options and career planning

The student can book a personal guidance appointment with their own counselor

- If the student wishes, the guardian can come along to the meeting

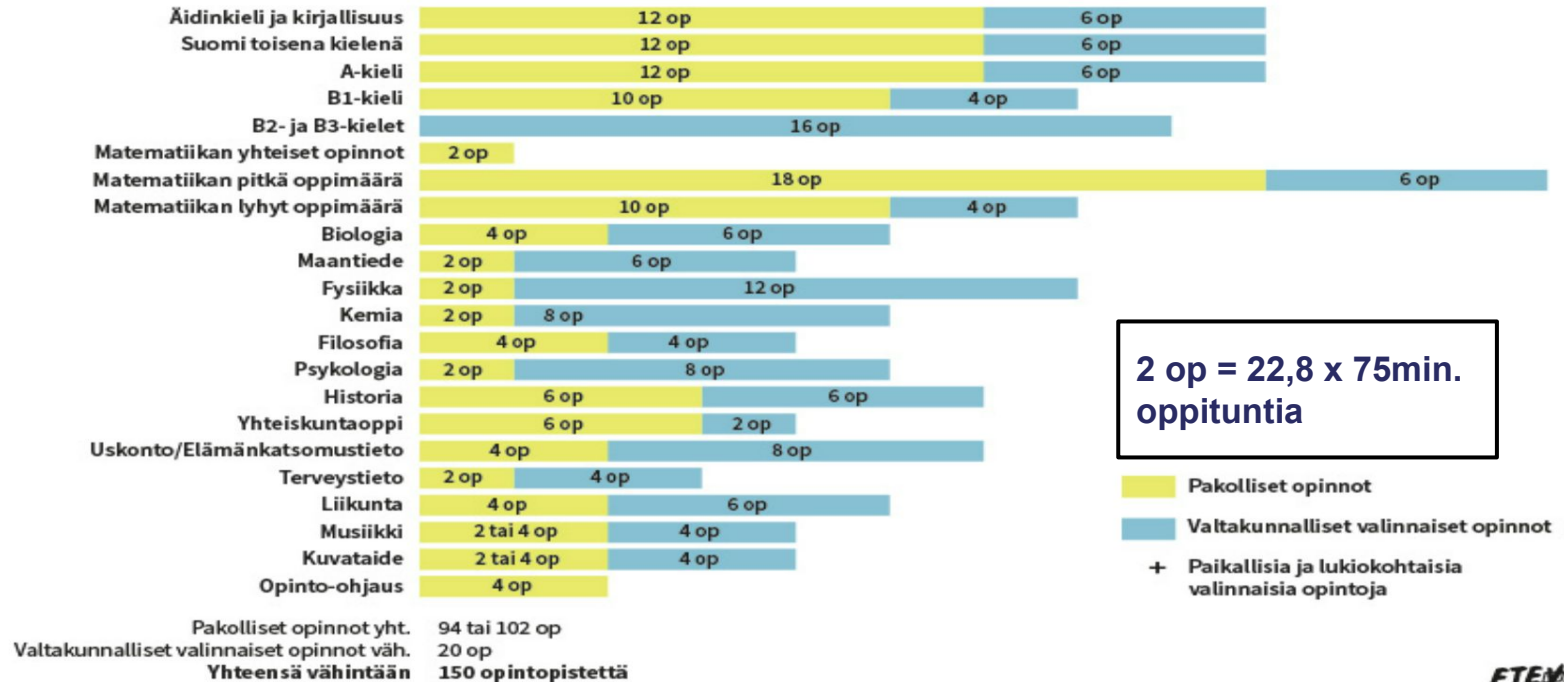
About upper secondary studies

- Upper secondary syllabus is 150 credits (op)
- The syllabus is three years in duration, but can be extended to 3.5 or 4 years
- Upper secondary studies consist of national compulsory and optional studies and school-specific optional studies
- Studies are divided into study modules, which have a scope of 1-3 credits
- There are 5 periods in the school year, at the end of each is an assessment week
- During the upper secondary time, the matriculation examination is completed
 - 5 compulsory exams
 - Completed during a maximum of three consecutive examination sessions





Lukiokoulutuksen oppimäärään sisältyvät opinnot (tuntijako)



ETEMÄ



Choosing the study modules

- First-year choices made
 - Changes possible throughout the year
 - Recommended 60-66 credits / year
 - School maximum 76 credits / year
- Students create a personal study plan under the guidance of the counselor
- Next year's choices and the matriculation examination plan are made in February-March
- Study plan changes are made with the counselor

Bilingualism

- English enrichment and bilingualism are part of our upper secondary school's everyday life
 - All study modules are open to everyone regardless of language
- Good for English stream students to practice the Finnish language
- Students from other tracks are encouraged to participate in English-language teaching
 - Benefits in further studies and working life
- Finnish-language matriculation examination

Study plan changes - level changes

- A-mathematics (advanced), B-mathematics (basic)
- A-language (long), B1-language (medium, Swedish), B2- and B3-language (short)
- Level changes - moving from advanced to basic syllabus - are made with the counselor
 - Recognition of completed studies
 - Impact on further studies and future working life
- Finnish language S1 (mother tongue), S2 (Finnish as a second language)
 - Principally according to the primary school leaving certificate
 - Decision by mother tongue teachers (Matriculation Examination Board criteria)
 - Possible change during the first school year



Study plan changes - extension plan

	1. vuosi					2. vuosi					3. vuosi					4. vuosi				
Periodit	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
3v											yo			yo						
3,5v											(yo)			yo		yo				
4v														(yo)		yo			yo	

- Why extend:
 - Scope of studies
 - Time used for studying
 - Spreading out the matriculation examinations and number of exams

Student Support in Kulosaari Upper Secondary school

Special teacher

- learning disabilities
- Statements for the final exams

School counsellor

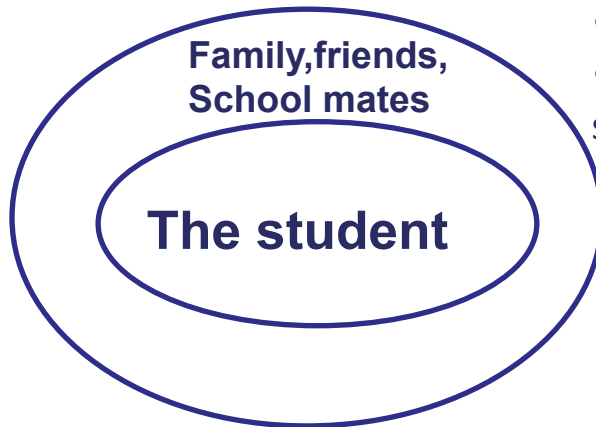
- relationships
- problems at school
- Life changes

Nurse

- Health check-ups
- First aid

Psychologist

- mental well-being



Teachers

- Subject specific counselling

Group-coordinator

- practical issues
- Absences
- Keeps an eye on the progress of the studies

Guidance counsellor

- Personal and group counselling
- study unit changes
- Changes of the study plan
- Career counselling

Principals

- Student enrolment
- Course tray
- Discipline matters
- Matriculation examination



Supporting the young person's well-being and studies



1. Support daily management and life rhythm
2. Be involved, but avoid over-directing
3. Stay up to date on studies and communication
4. Utilize peer support and communities

Lähde:

<https://vanhempainliitto.fi/vanhemmalle/nuoren-opiskelupolku-peruskoulun-jalkeen/>



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Spring parents' evening

Next parents' evening at 6pm on Wed 10th of March 2027

Topics: Matriculation examination and further study options after the upper secondary school



Meeting the Group Co-ordinators

26A / General stream, Elli Marjanen, **K11**

26B / General stream, Roosa Kinnunen, **K24**

26C / Social studies and economics track , Antero Tarkki, **K22**

26D /Science and Technology track, Antti Mäkelä, **K31**

26E /English stream, Mirjam Vaari, **L22**

26F / English stream, Martti Sloan, **K26**