

WHAT IS A CAMP SCHOOL?



A camp school is a learning trip organized by the school. It takes place outside the school building. Children learn, for example, in nature or by the sea. A camp school usually lasts 2–5 days. Pupils, the teacher, and parents plan the camp school together. In camp school, children learn by doing, not by sitting in a classroom. Camp school helps children grow more confident, make friends, and improve social skills. In camp school, all children are equal. Different customs and beliefs are respected both in the planning and during the activities.

Who takes care of the children?

The teacher is responsible for the children during the camp school. Other adults, like parents or group leaders, may help the teacher. All adults take care of the children's safety and well-being.

Can parents take part?

Yes. Parents can join the camp school. You must agree with the teacher in advance. Parents can help as supervisors. Parents also help with planning and fundraising. This gives a chance to get to know each other and support the class.

How is it paid for?

The camp school is paid through shared fundraising, like bake sales. Fundraising is voluntary. All money is used for the whole class, not for individual pupils. If there is not enough money, there may be a small fee. Parents are informed in advance.

Every child has the right to attend, even if the family does not join fundraising or pay a fee.

- Fundraising = Collecting money together
- Own fee = A small amount each person might need to pay

How does planning start?

Planning starts with a meeting with the teacher and parents. They decide if the class will go and how the trip will be organized. The final decision is made by the teacher, together with the parents.

What to pack?

Before the camp school, you get a letter with a packing list. You need warm and weatherproof clothes because much time is spent outdoors. Do not bring expensive items or too much money.



Important in the camp school



- **Behaviour:** Everyone must behave well and follow safety rules.
- **Phones and devices:** Device use may be limited. We want children to focus on each other and shared activities.
- **Money:** A child can take a small amount of money, but not too much.
- **Sleeping:** There are set times for sleeping. Girls and boys sleep in separate rooms.
- **Breaking rules:** If a child breaks rules, the teacher will talk with the child and the parents. New decisions may be made if needed.
- **Accidents and emergencies:** Everyone knows what to do in case of accident or emergency. First aid is given, and parents are contacted.
- **Permissions and health info:** Parents give information about possible allergies, medication, and food needs before the camp school.
- **Camp school agreement:** The teacher writes an agreement with the pupils and parents. It explains how to behave, what is not allowed, and what happens if rules are broken.
- **Insurance:** Camp school uses the same insurance as school days. It covers accidents (like falling), but not illnesses or luggage. For trips abroad, it is recommended to have travel insurance. The school's insurance does not cover parents. If a parent joins the trip, they must have their own insurance. This can include accident, luggage, and travel insurance. Parent insurance can be paid from fundraising if agreed.
- **Information collected:** The school collects a list of all pupils going to the camp. The list includes the child's name and birth date, parents contact information, possible illnesses, medicines, allergies and special diets. All agreements are written down. Keep them safe in case of problems.



Do you need help?

Finnish Camp School Association is happy to guide you!

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