



# The school in Finland

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*FinRA, Finnish Reading Association*  
<http://finnishreadingassociationenglish.blogspot.fi/>



Equity

Attitude

Professionalism

# Equity, a principle of Finnish Education

**equal opportunities** for learning and growth to all

- all people must have **equal access** to high-quality education and training, **professional teachers**
- no selection of pupils, school **close to home**
- basic education **free of charge**
- **warm meals** free of charge
- every pupil and student has the **right to educational support**
- special needs education is generally provided in conjunction with **mainstream education**

All pupils 7 to 16 of age have the right to basic education and learning. The aim is not to give all the same education, the aim is to individualise so that all pupils can learn and develop "as good as they can". Not making all the same but giving all the same opportunities.

Early intervention, preventive actions

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# Question:

- If the child does not learn,
- who is to blame?
- who is to fix it?

# We learn in different ways – our strengths and needs differ

- ✓ special education is a natural part of the school's everyday work
- ✓ the special teachers work with all pupils
- ✓ focus is in prevention

Cygnaeus school  
special education/literacy teachers  
Ann-Sofie Selin & Camilla Särs-Lundin

Early intervention, preventive actions

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Professionalism



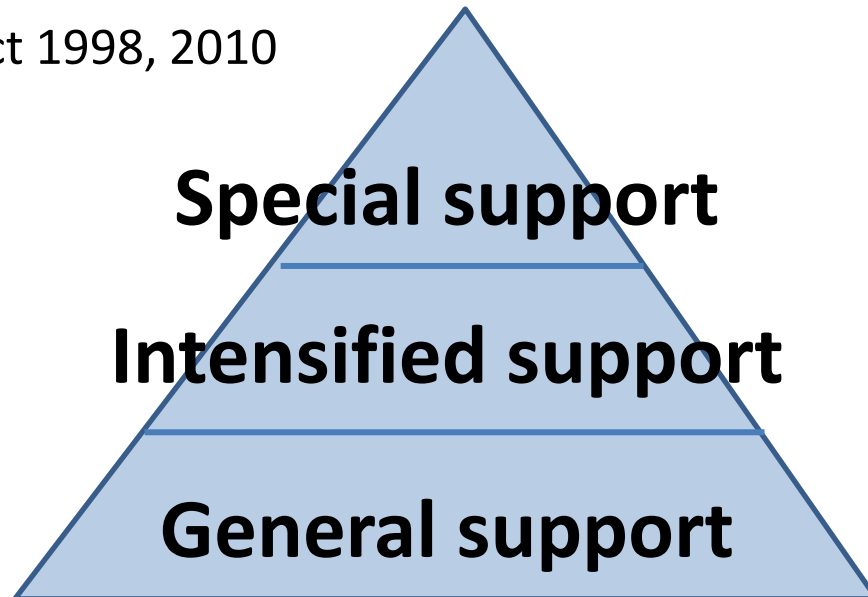
The professional [special] teacher knows Why, What, and How to act. He | she has the knowledge, makes the evaluation and builds on it

by Screening and assessment to identify and exclude and planning of program and coaching

# *Prevention and support for all learners*

Every pupil and student has the right to educational support (special needs education) generally provided in conjunction with mainstream education

Basic Education Act 1998, 2010



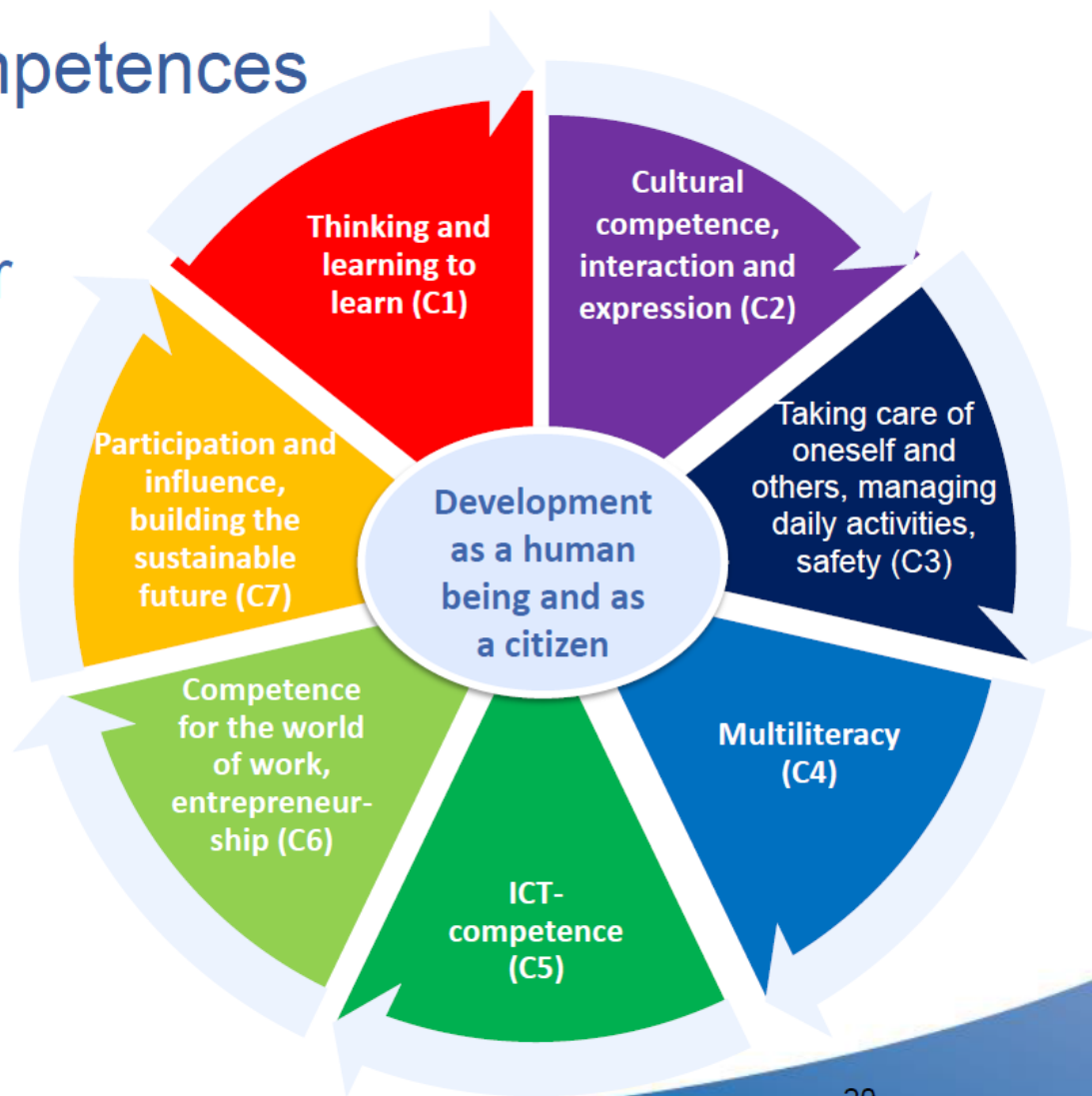
[https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/eurydice/index.php/Finland:Special\\_Education\\_Needs\\_Provision\\_within\\_Mainstream\\_Education](https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/eurydice/index.php/Finland:Special_Education_Needs_Provision_within_Mainstream_Education)

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## Rethinking competences

National goals for  
basic education  
and transversal  
competences

- knowledge
- skills
- values
- attitudes
- will





## Key objective of the basic education curriculum reform

We will work together to create better opportunities

