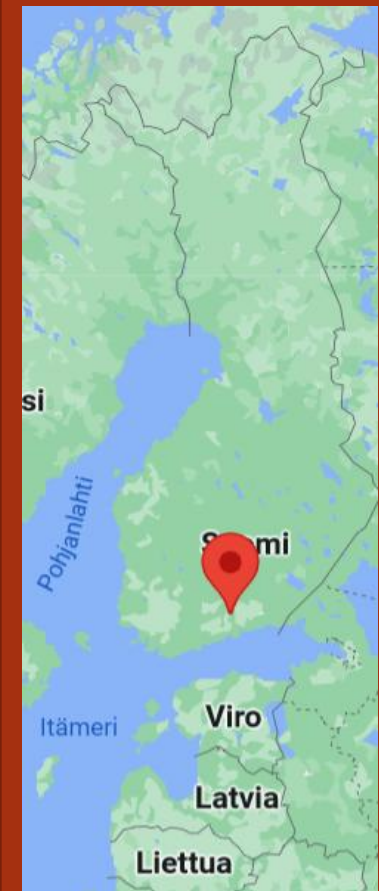


Jokivarsi
School
Orimattila
Finland





Jokivarren koulu, Orimattila

Comprehensive school / Basic education

- Grades 0–9 (age 6–7)
 - Primary and lower secondary education
- Pupils 500 (80–90 pupils with special needs)
 - 30 classes
 - 9 special classes
 - 4 classes for children with some kind of grave developmental disabilities (“Life skills education” instead of subject based education)
 - 70 pupils have other mother tongue than Finnish
 - Estonian, Pilipino, Spanish, Swedish, Japanese, Arabic, Russian, Sami, Burmese, Bulgarian, Twi, Dari, Turkish, Spanish, English, Ukrainian...

Staff

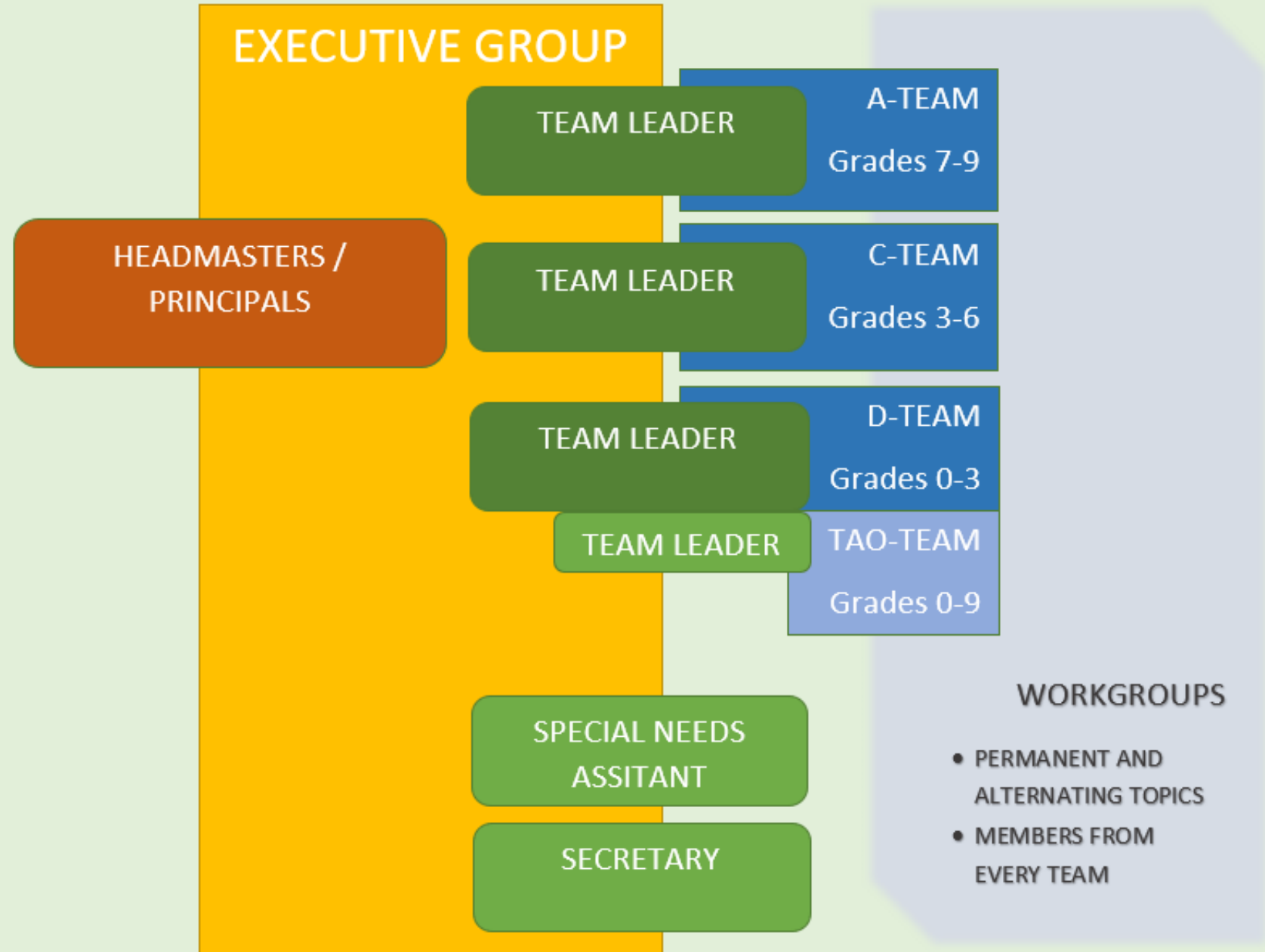
➤ Teachers	45
➤ Class teachers	12
➤ Special class teachers	9
➤ Subject teachers	16
➤ Guidance counsellor	1
➤ Special teachers	5
➤ Special needs assistants	21
➤ Secretary	1

- Headmaster / Principal
 - Administrative
- Vice-principals 3
 - 1 full time
 - 2 half time

Other professionals

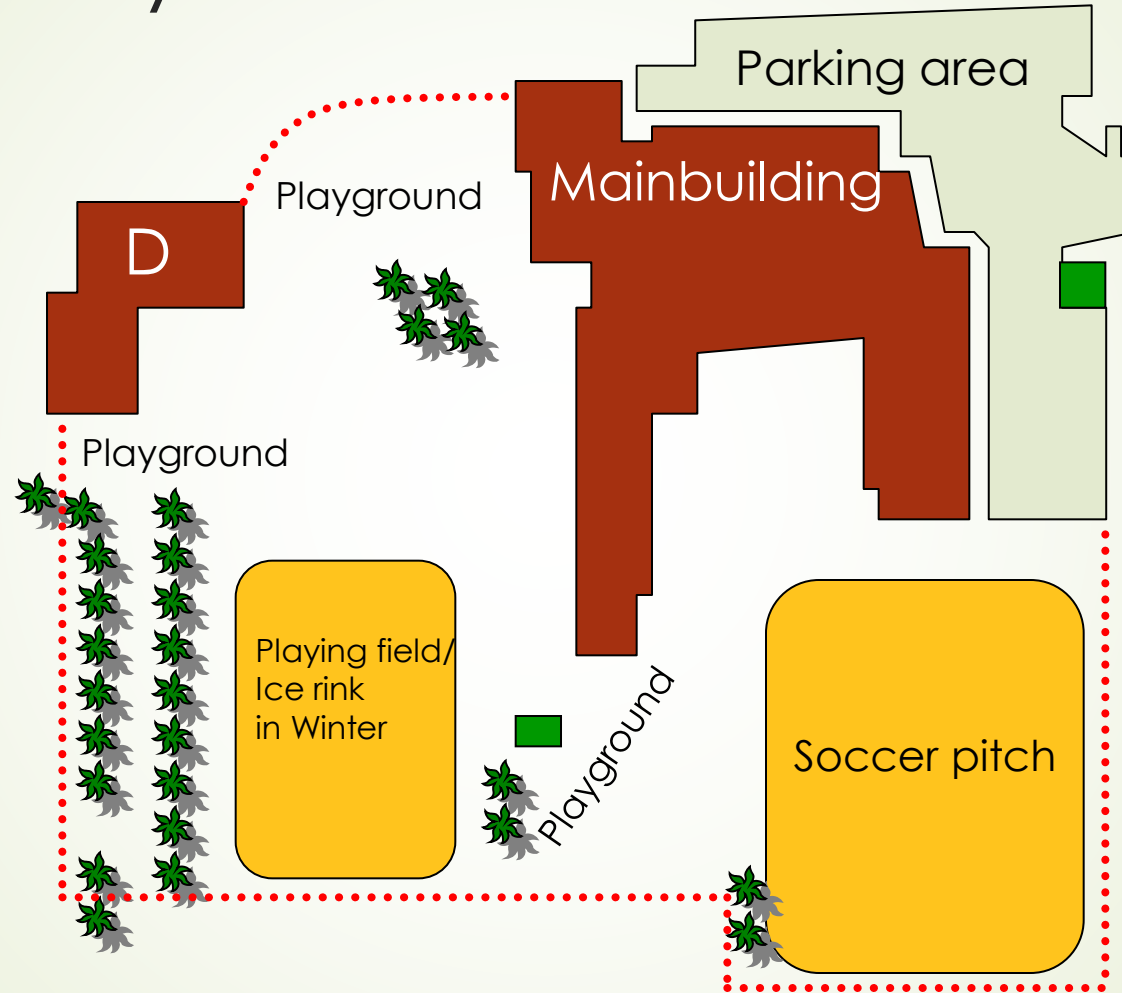
- School social worker (4 days a week)
- School psychologist (sometimes)
- School nurse (every day)
- Youth worker (every day)
- Dentist and dental nurse (public service)
- Cooks
- Cleaners

Jokivarren koulu is organised in three teams and several workgroups



Buildings and the school yard

PALJOJKI



Promoting emotional and communicative skills

As a pilot school in a national, government program for promoting pupils commitment to school by promoting

- ▶ Emotional skills (e.g. empathy)
- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Self-esteem
- ▶ Membership & participating
- ▶ Feeling of to be safe in own class with all the other pupils and the adults

and by working on a territorial model how to response to school absence in early stage.

Besides of awareness all the time, we have

In primary classes (1–6)

- ▶ One separate lesson in a week
- ▶ School social worker / psychologist / school youth worker co-operate with the class teacher / special class teacher once a month

In secondary classes (7–9)

- ▶ One separate lesson in two weeks
- ▶ School social worker / school youth worker co-operate with the class teacher / special class teacher when needed



TAO = "Life Skills Education"

For children with serious disabilities who can't get benefits of subject based education.

- Motoric skills
- Communication skills
- Social skills
- Cognitive skills
- Every day skills

Maximum 8 pupils in a class. Special class teacher and special needs assistant(s).

The Finnish education system

- ▶ early childhood education and care for children before the compulsory education begins, (at the age of 7 normally)
 - ▶ 100% inclusive
- ▶ pre-primary education for children in the year preceding the beginning of compulsory education
 - ▶ Near by 100% inclusive
- ▶ nine-year of primary and lower secondary education (comprehensive school), which is compulsory
 - ▶ Inclusive / Integrated / Segregated
- ▶ upper secondary education, either general upper secondary (gymnasium) education or vocational education and training
 - ▶ Inclusive / Integrated / Segregated
- ▶ higher education provided by universities and universities of applied sciences.
 - ▶ <https://okm.fi/en/education-system>

Staff qualifications

All the teachers (and headmasters) in primary and secondary schools have

- ▶ Masters' degree
 - ▶ In pedagogics for class teachers and special class teachers
 - ▶ In some of subjects for subject teachers
- ▶ At least 1600 hours studies in pedagogics (including in masters or after masters examine)

Special teachers and special class teachers have

- ▶ At least 1600 hours studies in special pedagogics (including in masters or after masters examine)
- ▶ Subject teacher + studies in special ped. => special teacher (quite like support teacher in Italy)
- ▶ Class teacher + studies in special ped. => special class teacher & special teacher

The special need assistants have

- ▶ One-year studies and training or
- ▶ Some vocational examine in social / health care / pedagogics