

Banning participation to education for the remainder of school day

Means of discipline and precautionary measures in basic education, Finnish National Agency for Education (oph.fi)

The principal may ban a pupil from participating in education at the most for the remainder of the school day if there is a risk that the pupil's violent or aggressive behaviour will endanger the safety of another pupil or a person working at the school or another teaching facility or that the pupil's disruptive behaviour will inordinately complicate teaching or an activity associated with it (Basic Education Act, Section 36 (3), Section 36 (a1), Section 36 (h), Basic Education Decree, Section 18).

Instructions for social welfare

- Finnish National Agency for Education: The banning from education must be notified to the pupil's custodian and, if necessary, to the authority that takes care of the duties belonging to the execution of social welfare services in the municipality of the school. The banning from education must be recorded.
- If necessary, a child welfare notification must be made.
- If the child is already a client of social welfare services, it is important that the information is forwarded to the social worker responsible for the child's affairs (a contact with the social worker is sufficient). If the school does not know who the social worker is and the information cannot be given directly to the social worker, and the grounds for making a child welfare notification exist, a child welfare notification is to be made electronically in accordance with standard practice. In this way, the notification is forwarded to the correct person.

- It is advised to tell the custodian in advance that a child welfare notification will be made, in other words at a point in time when the custodian is told about banning the child from participating in education.

Instructions for pupil welfare

- Finnish National Agency for Education: The education provider must make sure that a pupil who is banned from participating in education for the remainder of the school day is arranged the necessary pupil welfare services. The pupil must not be left without supervision after banning the pupil from participating in education.
- When the custodian is notified, it must be discussed what to do and whom to inform so that it is possible to reach a custodian or other close person who can take the child away from school under supervision after the child has been banned from participating in education for the remainder of the school day.
- If it is assessed that the pupil's situation requires pupil welfare measures, pupil welfare services must be contacted as described in the relevant act. An employee in pupil welfare services assesses, based on the information received by the employee, the need for a discussion appointment (there may be no need if, for example, the care and client relationships have already been arranged elsewhere) and its urgency.
- There will be an individual pupil welfare meeting where the relevant matters will be agreed upon and recorded together with multi-professional experts.
- An individual pupil welfare report will be recorded.