THE FINNISH EDUCATION AND TRAINING SYSTEM

Higher education

Universities

Polytechnics

Vocational education and apprenticeship training

Working life

Specialist vocational qualification

Further vocational qualification

Working life

Upper secondary education

Upper secondary schools

Working life

Lower secondary education

Comprehensive schools (ages 7–16)

Primary education

Pre-school education

Pre-school education
Legislation 1

Act for comprehensive education:

Schools are entitled to evaluate their work: teaching methods, study results, and education in general.

Students should be encouraged and taught for self-assessment.
THE ADMINISTRATION OF EDUCATION

**Ministry of Education**
- educational policy
- legislation

**National Board of Education**
- national core curricula
- developmental work
- national evaluation
- information services

agreement on results for a period of 3 years
The Finnish National Board of Education

National curriculum guidelines for comprehensive education:

- goals and contents of pupil assessment
- instructions for pupil assessment in 1999
- new national core curriculum for comprehensive education in 2004
National curriculum guidelines for comprehensive education

Task of assessment:

- to guide and encourage studying of pupils
- to evaluate how well the pupils have met the objectives established for growth and learning
- to help the pupil form a realistic image of his/her learning and development
National curriculum guidelines for comprehensive education

Principles of assessment:

- Assessment is based on diversity of evidence
- Assessment is to address pupil’s learning and progress in different areas of learning
- Pupil’s progress, work skills, and behaviour are assessed in relation to the curriculum’s goals and descriptions of good performance
- The description of good performance and the final evaluation’s criteria specify the knowledge and skill levels that constitute the basis of pupil assessment
National curriculum guidelines for comprehensive education

Principles of assessment, cooperation between school and home:

- pupil and the parents/guardian are to be informed in advance about the grounds for assessment
- in addition to reports assessment feedback can be given in a diverse manner
National curriculum guidelines for comprehensive education

Self-assessment by a pupil

- one task of the basic education is to develop pupils’ capability for self-assessment
- the purpose is to support the growth of pupils’ self-knowledge and the development of her/his study skills
- the goal is to reinforce pupils’ self-esteem, self-image as a learner, and sense of involvement
- pupils learn to assess their learning progress and process and to establish goals of their own
National curriculum guidelines for comprehensive education

Supporting the self-assessment skills of pupils

- pupils are to be guided in examining their learning processes and assessing their skills in learning and working
- teachers have to give regular feedback about pupils’ work – different methods should be used