

## **Contact teaching for primary and upper secondary schools will begin on Wednesday, August 11th**

*In principle, all primary school and upper secondary school students normally start the school year 2021–22 in contact teaching at their own school.*

At the beginning of the autumn term, attention is paid to the individual well-being of each pupil and student supporting learning. During the first weeks of school, special emphasis is placed on the safety of the school day. Positive encounters between pupils and students every school day are important.

In all school activities, the instructions and recommendations of THL, OPH (Finnish National Agency for Education), OKM (Ministry of Education and Culture), the regional government agency and the welfare group are taken into account, so that it is safe to come to work and study at school.

Lahti's primary education has updated [the corona situation guidelines related to health and safety as well as pedagogical solutions](#), which are reviewed with the school's adults before the schools start. For example, practices related to teaching arrangements, teaching delivery, support for learning and schooling, pupil and student care, school meals and transportation will be refined according to the corona situation.

### **Mask recommendation valid from sixth graders**

The general recommendation for the use of a face mask applies to everyone over 12 years of age. In schools, the mask recommendation is valid from sixth graders and applies to all staff. The city's primary school students as well as first-year students who are subject to compulsory education at upper secondary schools as well as school staff, receive masks from schools.

The use of a face mask also applies to school transport and school trips in public transport.

### **Schools follow normal absenteeism practices**

In principle, all students start school in contact teaching. Regarding student absences, the school's normal absence practices are followed. Absence must always be applied for and the school will consider whether there are grounds for granting the permit. You must not come to school when ill. Absence due to a pupil or student's illness must be reported to the school as soon as possible.

### **Corona vaccinations for children and adolescents**

Anyone over the age of 16 and older can [make an appointment for coronavirus vaccination](#). Now for the rest of the week, also on the weekend, Päijät-Sote will offer the vaccine at the Shopping Centre Trio's walk in vaccination point without an appointment, if you are a Päijät-Sote customer, have not yet received the first corona vaccine and are over 16 or 12-15 years old. More information [on the Welfare Group's website](#).

On Thursday, August 5, the government has decided to extend vaccinations to all 12- to 15-year-olds. It is planned to start vaccinating 12–15-year-olds in the Päijät-Häme Welfare Group's area, more information on this later.

### **The first compulsory students start in upper secondary schools and the autumn old dances student ball will be cancelled.**

A historic school year is beginning in upper secondary schools when upper secondary school students are required to attend school for the first time. As a result, upper secondary schools are preparing to distribute computers, study material licenses and other study material to students.

Old dances student ball postponed from spring to August will have to be canceled due to the corona situation.

### **Wilma service for homes gives current information**

Lahti's primary education and upper secondary education services monitor information and guidance related to the coronavirus from the health authorities, the government, the regional government agency and the National Agency for Education. If new recommendations or restrictions on primary education or upper secondary education become available during the school year, pupils, students, legal guardians and school staff will be informed and instructed through the Wilma service. In addition, you are asked to follow the information updated [on the city's lahti.fi website](https://www.lahti.fi).