


HELSINKI, FINLAND

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF  
HELSINKI

ASSISTED SCHOOL SPECIAL NEEDS PROFILE

**NOTE:** School situations can change quickly, particularly as schools face cutbacks to learning support programs due to the pandemic, unrest, and economic uncertainty. For the most current information, work with the REO and school. Information in this document was collected by the Department of State's Office of Overseas Schools directly from the school in fall 2022 and shows the availability of services rather than an assessment of the quality of the services. The profile is intended as a jumping off point for a conversation with the REO and school to understand the best fit for your child. Definitions may vary school to school. If a field is not specified, please reach out to the REO listed below for more information.



**The International School of Helsinki** (ISH) The International School of Helsinki is an independent, coeducational day school that offers an educational program from kindergarten through grade 12 for students of all nationalities. The school was founded in 1963. The lower school (K-5) and upper school (6-12) operate on semesters that run from August to June. Read more on the [Overseas Schools Fact Sheet](#).

ADMISSIONS & SPECIAL NEEDS INFORMATION

The school's admission criteria and procedures can be found at [ishelsinki.fi/welcome-to-ish-admissions](https://ishelsinki.fi/welcome-to-ish-admissions). Special needs information can be found [ishelsinki.fi/student-support-services](https://ishelsinki.fi/student-support-services).

IN GENERAL, THE SCHOOL CAN SUPPORT STUDENTS WHOSE LEARNING SUPPORT NEEDS ARE

Mild, Moderate, More Intensive

We can assist by in finding personal assistants for moderate to severe needs but this is Embassy supported. We don't have the facilities for severe health/psychological needs for full time pull out.


ABLE AND WILLING TO ACCOMMODATE STUDENTS WITHIN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES

Hearing Impaired	Yes	Behaviorally/Emotionally Disturbed	Yes
Physically or Orthopedically Impaired	Yes	Multiple Disabilities	Yes
Visually Impaired	Yes	Other health impairment	Yes
Autistic	Yes	Speech or Language impaired	Yes
Specifically Learning Disabled	Yes	Traumatic Brain Injury	No
Intellectually Disabled	Yes		

SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT SERVICES


Teacher Accommodations

Yes




Teacher Accommodations Learning Support Teacher

Yes




Learning Support Teacher

Yes




Co-Teaching/ Team Teaching in the Classroom

Yes



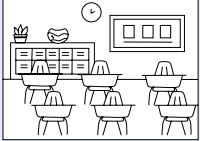
Academic Support Class Secondary School

Yes



SELF-CONTAINED CLASSROOM

No



In Elementary

No

In Middle School


No

In High School

No

Maximum Hours per Week per Student Push In Pull Out


Full Day



5


Support for special needs preschoolers

Yes



Use of IEP or ILP

Yes



SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT STAFF IN THE SCHOOL

Nurse:		2
Psychologist:		1
Social Worker:		1
Special Needs Coordinator:		3
Learning Support Teacher:		6
Guidance Counselor:		3

Staffing numbers are listed as full school totals. A breakdown by elementary, middle, and high school levels can be found on the [School Summary Information Portal](#) or by emailing [OverseasSchools@state.gov](mailto:OverseasSchools@state.gov).

SERVICES AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH

SCHOOL		COMMUNITY		SCHOOL	
Psycho Educational Assessment	Yes		No	1 : 1 Trained Classroom Aide	No
Speech Therapy	Yes		No	Special Transportation	No
Occupational Therapy	No		Yes	Transportation Paraprofessional	No
Physical Therapy	No		No		
Behavior and/or Autism Specialist (ABA/Behavior Plan/Interventions)	No		Yes		
Social Skills Group/ Social Skills Training	No		Yes		

LITERACY & MATHEMATICS SUPPORT

SCHOOL		COMMUNITY	
U.S. Credentialed Reading Specialist	Yes		No
Reading Remediation	Yes		No
Reading Programs for Dyslexia (Orton Gillingham, etc.)	Yes		No
Math Specialist	Yes		No

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BEST EDUCATIONAL  
FIT FOR YOUR CHILDREN

Reach out to: <a href="mailto:OverseasSchools@state.gov">OverseasSchools@state.gov</a>	Regional Education Officer (REO)	MED/CFP
	Dr. Christine Brown <a href="mailto:brownc12@state.gov">brownc12@state.gov</a>	Child and Family Program Team <a href="mailto:MEDCFP@state.gov">MEDCFP@state.gov</a>
	Tel: +1 (202) 261-8217	Tel: +1-202-663-1815

[www.state.gov/m/a/os](https://www.state.gov/m/a/os)