

SOTEPALA

**Effectiveness study of health and social services
for school-age children**



Länsi-Uudenmaan hyvinvointialue
Västra Nylands välfärdsområde



Vantaan ja Keravan
hyvinvointialue
Vanda och Kervo
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HELSINGIN
YLIOPISTO



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Hello!

We are Sanna Salonen and Silja Kosola, employees of the Western Uusimaa Wellbeing Services County. We are conducting a study called Targeting of healthcare and social welfare services for school-aged children (SOTEPALA). In addition to us, researchers from other wellbeing services counties in Southern Finland, the University of Helsinki and Aalto University are also working on the study.



The purpose of this study is to find out whether children in need of support in schools receive the support they need. We also want to hear how useful the reception of the school doctor is for pupils in grades 5 and 8.

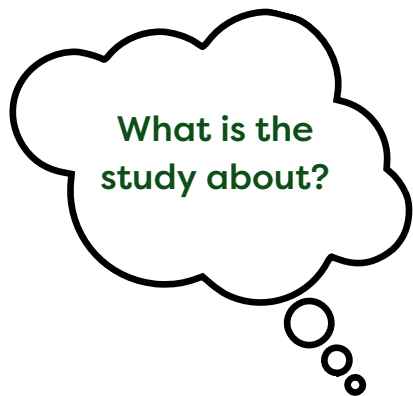
Research on the topic is important because no other country has exactly the same kind of school healthcare system, school social workers or school psychologists. Some adults are also concerned about how these support services have been organised since the establishment of wellbeing services counties. We are inviting you to participate in the study because children have the right to be heard in matters that concern them.



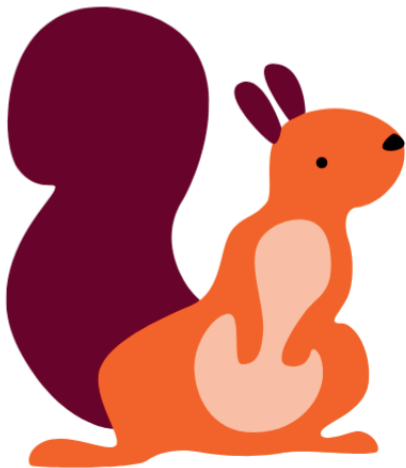
Voluntariness and the right to refuse

Your opinion in the SOTEPALA study is important to us. participation in the study is voluntary. It takes a little time to complete the survey, but you can decide how much detail you want to give in the open-ended questions.

You can refuse to take part or you can stop taking part in the study if you wish. You do not have to give the researchers a reason, and your refusal or withdrawal will not have any negative or unpleasant consequences for you or your family.



What is the study about?



Information about the study

Participation in the study means the following:

-  You will get the health check for 5th graders at your school as normal.
-  After the appointment with the school doctor, you will receive a QR code for the survey. Completing the survey takes approximately 5–10 minutes. The survey is not an exam, and there are no right or wrong answers to it.
-  We ask for permission to connect your survey responses to information about school absences, the need for support at school, and whether you have visited a school social worker or school psychologist.

All data will be stored in a way that prevents unauthorised access. We, the researchers, will delete all personal data and ensure that you or other individuals cannot be identified from the published research results. All the research data will be destroyed by the end of 2030.

Protection of your data

In the SOTEPALA study, we will collect data about you, such as your age, school, number of school absences and how many times you have visited a school nurse during the year.

The data collected about you will be processed confidentially and anonymously. This means that your name and other information will be stored in a username and password-protected location on a secure computer and will not be shared with others. No one except the researchers of the SOTEPALA study will see your responses or the data collected for this study. The researchers will not tell anyone which children participated in the study. No one can identify you or other children in the research reports.



The study follows the guidelines and rules of the University of Helsinki, the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS) and the wellbeing services counties. Your data will only be processed in Finland and will not be transferred abroad.

This notice is based on previous releases from the Taitava project and the social work discipline of the University of Jyväskylä.

Research results

Scientific texts will be written about the study to share new knowledge. You cannot be identified in these texts.

The new knowledge will improve the work of doctors with schoolchildren and the cooperation between teachers, school nurses, doctors, school social workers and school psychologists. Presentations will also be held on the topics of the study to spread the knowledge throughout Finland.

Your right to ask for more information or review your data

You can ask us anything about the SOTEPALA study either beforehand or after you complete the survey.

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Silja's telephone number: +358 40 353 3758

You have the right to review or correct the information you provided. You can also cancel your participation in the survey by informing us. No new data will be collected about you after that, but the data collected up to the time of cancellation will not be removed from the research data.



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Consent to participate in the study

I have been asked to participate in the study: Targeting of healthcare and social welfare services for school-aged children (SOTEPALA).

I have received the information in this notice both in video format and in writing and have understood what I have been told. I know enough about the study.

I understand that participation in the study is voluntary. I have the right to discontinue my participation in the study at any point during the study. I do not need to give a reason, and it will not have any unpleasant consequences for me.

Yes, I will participate in the study.

Yes, my survey response may be linked to my register information.

Place and date:

Name:

Date of birth:

Signature:
