

DEAR PARENT/GUARDIAN!

In several studies it has been confirmed that both parents and children evaluate Finnish early childhood education and care to be of high quality. Parents' and children's experiences of the daily education and care are often positive. There is a lot of development work done. However, there are still many things that can and should be improved. Orientation project is an early childhood research and development project. Firstly, its purpose is to do a comprehensive and thorough research about the early childhood education the children confront and produce daily. Secondly, based on the research results, the educators get feedback in order to help them to develop their education and care further. In the research children's activities are observed, they are interviewed and their activities are evaluated. Furthermore, the learning environment practices, atmosphere and priorities are evaluated. From January to May 2015 the research data is collected in your day care unit (day care center, child minder). In Finland, approximately 4000 children and more than 200 day care units participate in the research. The collected research data is confidential. Children's or their families' identification data is not collected. The staff will consider children's situation. We follow the ethical standards of doing research with children. Children will not be studied as individuals in the data, but the large data makes it possible to study even rare difficulties in a reliable fashion. Read more about the research and development project at <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/orientate/>.

The child will not participate in the project without parent's/parents' permission. To make it possible for each child's point of view to be considered and have an impact on the research results, we ask for parent's/parents' permission to participate in the research project. Each child's experiences are important and should be considered in the education and care. Return the permission form to the educators of your child. The presentation of the research results will start in August 2015.

Best regards

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RESEARCH PERMIT

My child _____ can participate in the Orientation project

(<http://blogs.helsinki.fi/orientate/>) research in 2015.

Place and date

Signature

Name printed