

Workshop U: Health promoting schools.

Health promotion capacity building in Finnish comprehensive schools

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According to Finland's Basic Education Act, the promotion of school wellbeing and health is one of the main tasks of comprehensive schools. The new Pupil and Student Welfare Act (2014) also accentuates the role of the school in evaluating, planning and developing student welfare activities. However, there was no comparable nationwide information on health promoting activities in comprehensive schools until the launch of a benchmarking database called TEAviisari in 2010 (<http://www.thl.fi/teaviisari>). TEAviisari has been used as a tool by headmasters in building the health promotion capacity at their schools but also in policymaking and evaluating school welfare activities at national-level.

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