



Guidance Services in Vocational Education and Training for Students and Mature Students

Guidance and counselling in vocational education

Kirsti Kosonen, Principal, Jyväskylä Vocational Institute
President of the Union of Vocational Principal Associations in Finland

Merja Lammi, Teacher, Coordinator for Special Education

Niko Toom, Student, Business and Administration

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Jyväskylä





The goal of vocational education in Finland is

- to enhance the vocational competencies of the Finnish population,
- to develop working life and meet its requirements for competencies, and
- to enhance employment.



Mission of Vocational Education in Central Finland

- to enhance provincial and regional development
- to develop business, industry and the public sector
- to provide individual learning paths for young and adults

➤ Provincial development strategy

www.jao.fi



General Education

Graduates	1 200
Students	4 400
Teaching Staff	400
Other	110

Adult Education

Graduates	950
Total Number of Students	10 000
Teaching Staff	200

Students with special needs 330



Jyväskylä Vocational Institute

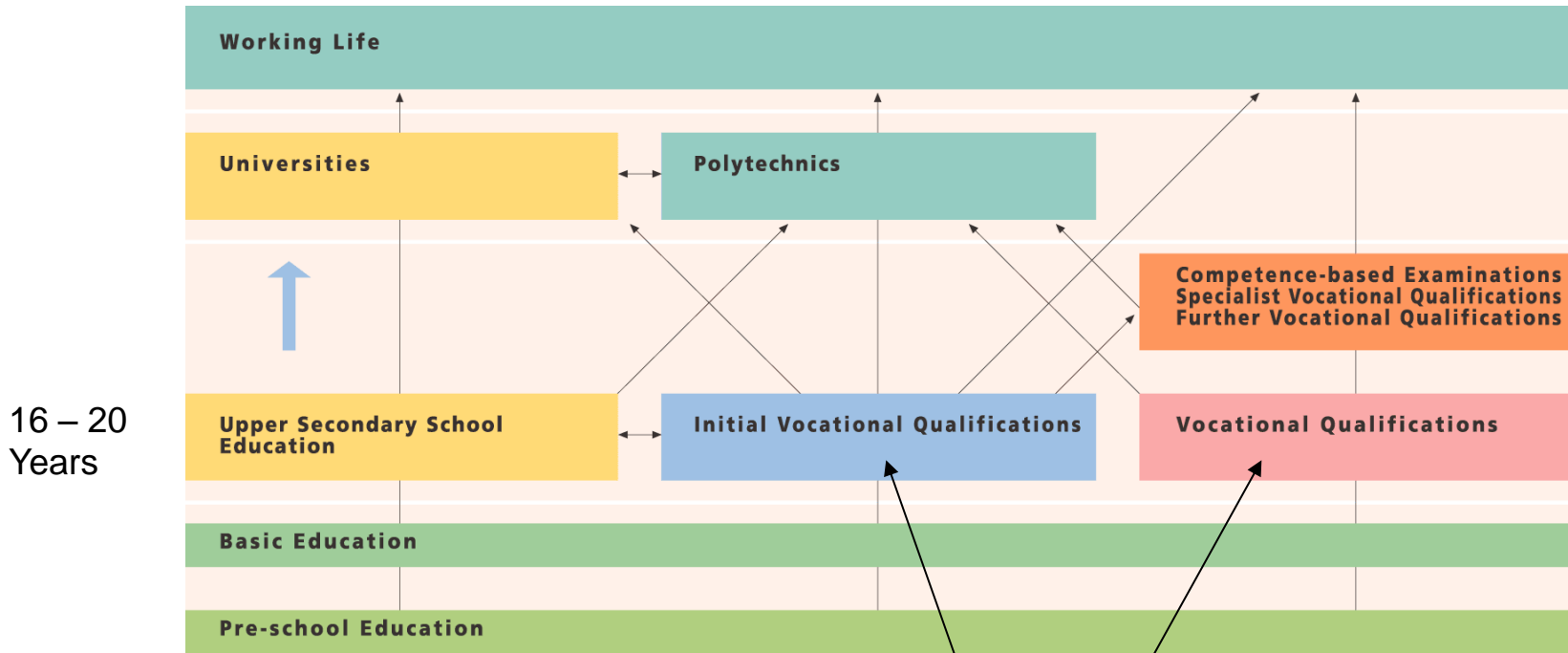
Youth Education

- Technology College
- Business College
- Catering College
- Conservatory
- College of Health and Social Care
- Central Finland Institute of Arts and Crafts

Adult Education



Finnish Education System



Jyväskylä Vocational Institute



The Finnish Vocational Education System

Youth education mainly takes place in educational institutions

Apprenticeships are less common

National system: all 52 initial vocational qualifications have the same structure and duration (3 years)



Vocational Education and Training (VET)

Initial vocational education and training is provided in vocational institutions or as apprenticeship training.

A three-year vocational qualification provides general eligibility for higher education.

A vocational qualification can also be taken as a competence based examination.



Structure of studies

The same structure and duration in all examinations

A three years vocational studies provides general eligibility for higher education

Composition of studies

Vocational studies

90 credits

- common vocational studies
- specialist vocational studies
- on-the-job learning

(minimun 20 credits)

Common studies

20 credits

Free-choice studies

10 credits

120 credits



Common studies

Core subjects aim to provide students with the skills and knowledge that they will need at work, in further study and as citizens. Core subjects also include options and they can be replaced with general upper secondary school studies.

Upper secondary vocational qualifications include the following compulsory core subjects for all students:

- native language
- second national language (Swedish/Finnish)
- foreign language
- mathematics
- physics and chemistry
- social, business and labour-market subjects
- physical and health education
- arts and culture



Dual-degree System = Double qualifications

Initial vocational qualification +

upper secondary school certificate (matriculation examination in Finnish, Swedish, English, Mathematics)

Guidance and Counselling in Jyväskylä Vocational Institute

The goal of guidance and counselling is to provide to our students individual support in studies, career planning and employment

- Information about vocational education to students, parents and teachers in secondary schools (parents assembly, open doors, exhibition fair)
- personal guidance (life planning and career guidance)
- classroom guidance (free-choice-studies, learning skills etc)
- small group guidance (job seeking skills, portfolio)
- web-based services (applying for further education etc)
- self-help services (open learning centre, library)

Responsible for: Homeroom teacher, guidance counsellors,
school social workers, special needs teachers,
• school secretaries



Students with special needs in Jyväskylä Vocational Institute

- The aim is to integrate special needs students into mainstream education and training
(equality, can choose from 25 vocational upper secondary qualifications)
- need-based small groups
- Special needs education is tailored as much as possible to suit each student's individual needs
- 13 special education institutions in Finland provide education and training for students with the most severe disabilities



Staff involved with guidance and counselling

- **Principal**
- **Head of Programme**
- **Homeroom Teacher**
- **Vocational Studies Teachers**
- **Subject Teachers**
- **Special Education Coordinating Teachers**
- **Special Needs Teachers**
- **Special Needs Assistants (with upper secondary vocational qualification)**

Student welfare

- **Guidance Counsellors**
- **School Social Workers**
- **School Health Service**
- **Student Accommodation**
- **Free-time activities**



Support to Students in Jyväskylä Vocational Institute

- guidance and counselling -> individual learning path
- flexible small groups
- same time teaching
- special need teachers
- vocational special teachers
- assistant persons (have vocational qualification)
- interpreters (sign language)
- on- the-job learning more than 20 credits
- different learning environments
- different teaching methods
- remedial teaching
- workshops

Developing Career Guidance of Young People with special needs

- New special education organisation when mainstreaming (somebody is responsible for)
- Year planning (preventing problems, a student need not to fail)
- Recognizing the student with special needs (strengths)
- Orientation term in the beginning
- Life and career planning is a part of IEP (individual education plan)
- Becoming acquainted with vocational education, school experiments
- Flexible applying for students with special needs
- Exchanging information (form, permit from parents on www-pages)
- Education to our teachers about special needs students
- Education to workplace instructors



Cooperation with:

- Companies which are arranging on-the-job-learning (attitudes, vocational skills requirements, training professional skills before, vocational skills demonstration, employment) co-operation with
- Secondary education schools in Central Finland (guidance counsellors and special needs teachers)
- Deaf Association (counsellor in beginning of studies, on-the-job-learning, educating teachers with students who use sign language)
- Special schools
- Employment office



ERVA-team (1 x month)

- 9 special needs coordinating teachers
- developing special education and promoting good practises in Jyväskylä Vocational Institute

Special needs coordinating teacher (ERVA, responsible for special education in own school or vocational field)

- coordinating
 - planning
 - developing special education in own school or field
- is participating in ERVA-team for developing and planning special education in Jyväskylä Vocational Institute (6 colleges)

Special need teachers

- consulting teachers
- supporting students with special needs

ERKKA-team (2-3 x year
special needs teachers and welfare personal



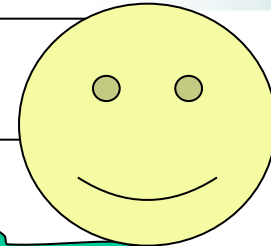
Career and Life Planning

- part of free choice studies
- need based, individually planned curriculum
- in small groups or personal services
- Studies includes guidance which:
 - promotes students self knowledgement and life management
 - improves self esteem and confidence
 - promotes personal or professional growth
 - supports student to find management strategies
 - supports accessing to the labour market, making portfolio, job seeking skills
- guidance counsellor, school social worker, special needs teacher etc.

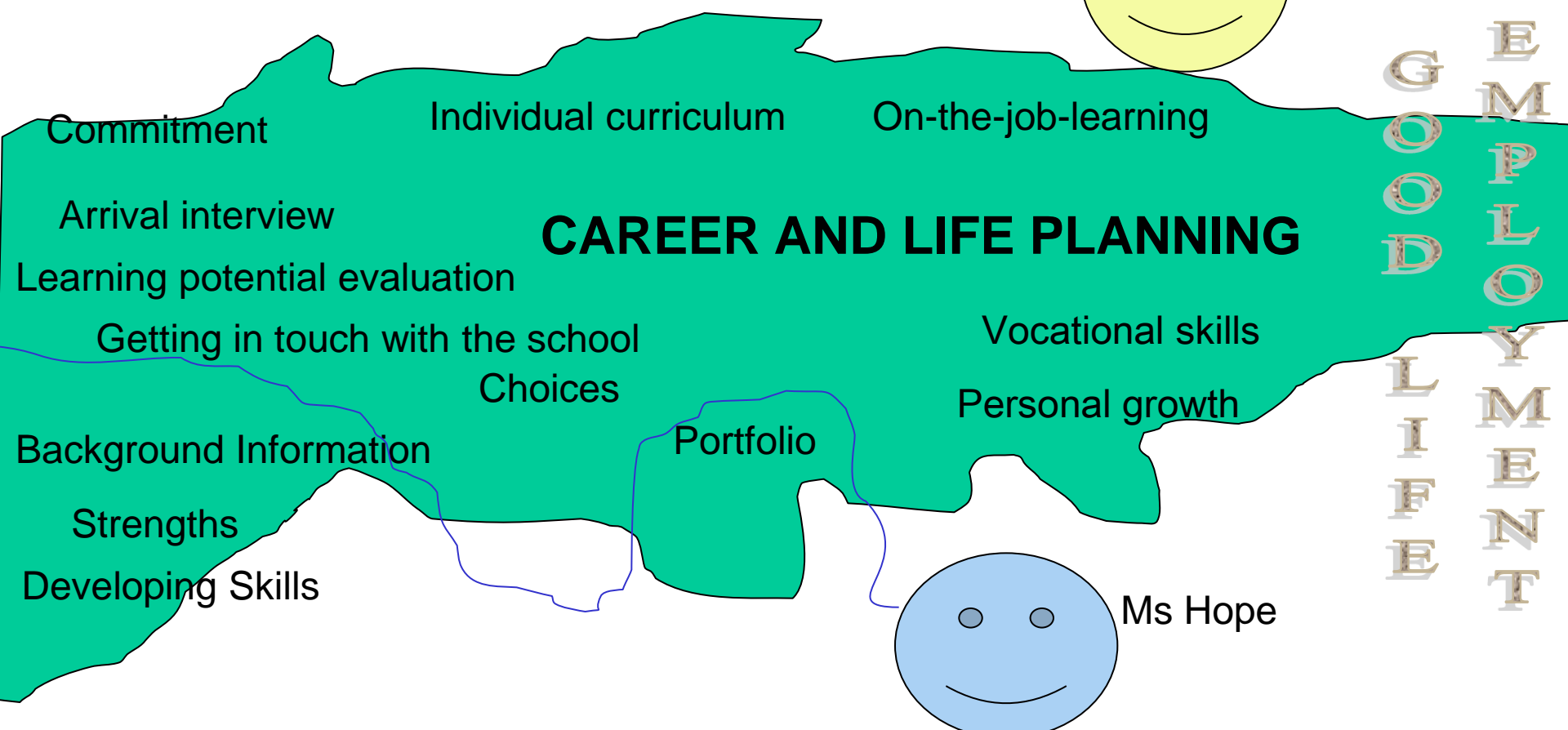
Performances will be marked in CAREER PASSPORT



Individual Education Plan Process



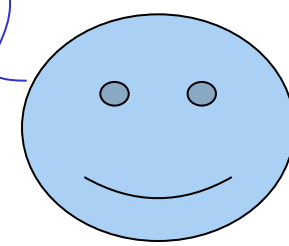
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