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Assessment

Vietnam – Finland International School

At the request of Wise Consulting Finland Oy, the Finnish National Agency for Education has assessed the documents describing the operations of Vietnam – Finland International School (VFIS Curriculum (June, 2017), Primary Curriculum Guideline (Jan 2019), VFIS School Handbook (Dec 2018), VFIS Assessment Policy (Dec 2018) and VFIS Recruitment Handbook (Oct 2019)) to determine the degree to which the school's teaching and other activities correspond to the characteristic features and operating culture of Finnish basic education.

Wise Consulting Oy has a cooperation agreement with the provider of the educational institution.

Assessment of the school's teaching and other activities

The documents contain the vision and mission of the school and general descriptions of how teaching is organised and how the operating culture is implemented. They describe, for example, the volume of teaching provided, the school year, the subjects, the structure of the school day, the method of completing studies, the staff structure and the qualifications required of staff as well as the school's administration.

Based on the descriptions in the documents, the objectives, structure and core contents of the curriculum, the teaching provided and other activities largely correspond to Finnish basic education, as it is expressed in the Basic Education Act (628/1998) and the National core curriculum for basic education 2014 (OPH 104/011/2014), which provides the foundation for local curricula. The staff structure, qualification requirements (in general, a second-cycle academic degree) and structure of the school's administration also correspond to the requirements of Finnish basic education. A description of the key characteristics of Finnish basic education, which were used as a basis for this assessment, is appended to this statement.

In contrast to Finnish basic education, the overall volume of teaching provided is approximately 30 per cent greater than that in Finland. The school covers nine years, as it does in Finland, but children start school at the age of six, which is one year earlier than in Finland. Other differences compared to Finnish basic education are found in the policies regarding pupils with special needs, in some subjects and in the final assessment, in which attention has been given to local linguistic and cultural considerations and characteristics.



The school differs from Finnish basic education in that it has entrance tests and that future pupils are already expected to have certain skills and studying abilities at the beginning of school. An individual learning plan is drawn up for each pupil. Moreover, in contrast to Finnish schools providing basic education, the school collects pupil fees.

Further assessment measures

In Finland, the legality of the curriculum of a private education provider is ensured as part of the national education authority's process of granting a permit for the provision of education. Furthermore, education providers in Finland are required to regularly assess the education they provide and to participate in the external assessment of their operations.

This assessment concerns the curriculum's correspondence with the Finnish curriculum as regards the general part. To ensure that the school's operations comply with the general descriptions in the Hand Book and the school's curriculum, an assessment of the school's operations must be carried out by an external auditor familiar with the Finnish education system for the first time approximately one year after the launch of operations.

In addition to the general part of the curriculum, Wise Consulting Finland Oy will later supply specifications of the objectives and contents of the subjects, specified for each grade to EDUFI.

Limitation of liability

This statement provides an assessment of the school's teaching and other activities based on the documents supplied to the Finnish National Agency for Education. The Finnish National Agency for Education is not responsible for the school's practical operations and their monitoring nor for the accuracy of the information used in the assessment. This statement forms a single whole. It is not permitted to extract and use parts of the text out of their context.

Additional information

Additional information about this statement is available from Education Finland.

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