



## **CARE-TIME AGREEMENT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND DAY CARE**

Every child is entitled to a day-care place until he/she starts basic education. Early childhood education constitutes systematic and goal-oriented activities and interaction that support children's growth, development, and learning. Play, physical exercise, study, and artistic experiences and expression in groups of different sizes are key to early childhood education. Pedagogical activities mainly take place in Vantaa day care from 8:00 to 14:30, whereas at other times, the main aim of day care is to care for children when their guardians are working or studying.

Day-care places offering evening- and round-the-clock care arrange pedagogical activities at other times as well.

The care-time agreement is drawn between the child's guardian and director of the day-care center before day care begins. The care-time agreement is also made for children in the City of Vantaa's outsourced private day care.

## **CHILD'S DAILY CARE TIME**

A signed care-time agreement is an official document with which both contracting parties must comply, and which has an impact on the child's day-care fee. For a child beginning day care, the care-time agreement is always effective from the date specified in the day-care decision.

If there are changes in the family situation or need for early childhood education, a new care-time agreement will be drawn. As a general rule, changes in the care-time agreement become effective from the beginning of the following month.

The child's daily attendance at day care is specified as closely as possible. Care time specifies the hours that the child is in day care and is the basis for the resulting day-care fee. According to the Day-care Act, a child can stay at day care for at. max ten hours per day.

The daily care time of a child at family day care may not exceed nine hours.

## **CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN PRESCHOOL EDUCATION OR PREPARATORY INSTRUCTION FOR 6-YEAR-OLDS**

Twenty hours of preschool education per week and 25 hours of preparatory instruction per week are given on schooldays. A care-time agreement is drawn for these children for the year they attend preschool education/preparatory instruction. In addition to preschool education or preparatory instruction for 6-year-olds, children at day care are charged the same day-care fee from August, from the date preschool education begins, to May-June when preschool education ends.

## **REGULAR DAYS OFF**

If a child is regularly absent from day care at least four days and at most 12 days per month, 4% per each average day of absence is compensated when determining the monthly fee.

**Only children in round-the-clock day care can have regular days off on weekends.** For more information on regular days off, visit

[http://www.vantaa.fi/instancedata/prime\\_product\\_julkaisu/vantaa/embeds/vantaawwwstructure/28738\\_523074\\_en.pdf](http://www.vantaa.fi/instancedata/prime_product_julkaisu/vantaa/embeds/vantaawwwstructure/28738_523074_en.pdf).