

EIS Kivimies 3S Parents  
March 30, 2023  
Growth and Learning Board - Espoo City Council  
Juha Nurmi, Director of Basic Education  
Espoo City Youth Council  
EIS School Board  
EIS Student Board, EIS Parent-Teacher Association

## Request for fair treatment of students of EIS Kivimies campus

The proposal presented at the guardians' meeting organized by Espoo City Council at Opinmäki and Kivimies campuses of Espoo International School (EIS) on 28.3.2023, to bring EIS Kivimies 3S students under the auspices of the new English-language school, the Kivimies School, **is not acceptable** by the undersigned parents and guardians of the EIS 3S students who represent the great majority of most impacted students. It's rather unfortunate that Espoo City Council's sudden proposal to cut off EIS 3S from their alma mater, reflects discrimination, injustice and clear breach of trust towards the students and parents of EIS Kivimies Campus. We would like to remind the city council that:

1) We, as parents and guardians, consciously enrolled our children in Espoo International School for its great reputation, international community and especially for its IB (7-9 grade MYP) program. Many international parents of 3S chose to reside in Espoo and not in any other districts knowing that Espoo offers IB Board accredited school in EIS.

2) Our children have successfully passed the selective entrance test to be admitted to EIS just as other EIS students at Opinmäki. It is unjustifiable to shift only a certain set of students of EIS to a different school.

3) EIS has grown deeply into our childrens' identity, strengthened by their joint activities like Eco school representation, student council memberships, and joint events and festivals with Opinmäki Campus. It is deeply traumatizing and morally unfair for the young children to have their identities as EIS students, taken from them with no fault of theirs. The children unanimously want to be part of EIS as indicated by a survey.

4) Before applying to EIS Kivimies, parents and guardians were assured that their children could stay in EIS through elementary school until grade 9.

The undersigned understand the reasons behind the proposed changes and the need for Espoo to better accommodate tax-paying families moving to Finland for work assignments. However, the proposal is unfairly discriminating against our children compared to other EIS students.

Therefore, we strongly request **Espoo City Council to transfer our children to the EIS Opinmäki campus** and allow the existing EIS 3S students to keep their beloved EIS identity. The existing EIS students, including our children at EIS Kivimies campus, must have priority over any new students admitted to the EIS for Autumn 2023. The Opinmäki campus has a 4S class which will graduate to 5S in Autumn 2023. This will make space in Opinmäki for our incoming 4S class from EIS Kivimies in Autumn 2023. Additionally this will facilitate the Kivimies School to start afresh, without the baggage of children, parents and guardians who feel mistreated. Espoo decision-makers must understand the grave seriousness of this matter to the parents, who pay taxes here and have chosen EIS as their kids' school and have built their future in the Espoo region. Such unfair treatment could also cause great reputational harm to Espoo, which tries to build a brand as an excellent place for international talent to relocate. We kindly ask Espoo City Council and the decision-makers to address our concerns into consideration when deciding the matter and to do the right thing.

Regards,  
The undersigned EIS Kivimies 3S parents