



Education office, City of Oulu  
Kasarmintie 3, 90100 OULU

## **PARTICIPATION IN TEACHING OF ONE'S OWN RELIGION**

### **Information to guardians**

The new Freedom of Religion Act entered into force on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2003. Teaching of Evangelical Lutheran and Orthodox religion is arranged as before in the comprehensive schools of the city of Oulu.

Upon request of the guardian, the school will arrange teaching of the pupil's own religion. Teaching of a such religion that is not yet offered in the schools of the city of Oulu will be started to three pupils who belong to a registered religious community, if their guardians request that. As a main rule, teaching will be given in the pupil's own school, but teaching may take place in joint instruction groups of the city or in regional groups.

If no teaching of one's own religion is organised, the pupil can participate in teaching of the religion of the majority (Evangelical Lutheran), ethics or compensating teaching provided by the school, that is agreed upon with the school. The pupil can also participate in compensating teaching in his/her own religious community. Then no compensating instruction is given in the school. The pupil must bring a certificate to the school for such compensating teaching given by one's own community, and the certificate will be attached to the pupil card. No grade is given in the school year report for compensating teaching given by one's own community.

If teaching of one's own religion is organized, the pupil must participate either in teaching of his/her own religion or teaching of the religion of the majority.