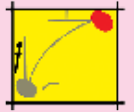




**WORLD OF CAREERS (WoC)** is an initiative of **Prime Academy**; the 25-year old CA training institution. WoC provides career conversations with school and college students across academic streams, and with fresh professionals. It's run on the i-Learn mode. WoC Buzz is a fortnightly update which presents key global developments in careers.



## SCHOOLS WITH NO HOMEWORK! DO THEY EXIST?

By CA SNEHA SUBRAMANIAM

**IN 2019**, Finland's was rated Number 1 education system in the world, according to the World Top 20 Project's Final Rankings of 201 countries.

Back in the 1990's Finland ranked low in the global sweepstakes. It then tried new ideas, and soon shot to the top. How? There are three quick secrets here.

Can you imagine Indian schools do away with homework? Fat chance. But Finland cut the crap.

**No homework or reduced homework is first secret of their success.** Finnish educationists believe that at home children must be with the family and do other things they love. The average time spent by a Finnish student on homework is 15 minutes. The argument is that the brain has to relax every now and then. Downtime replenishes the brain's store of attention and motivation, encourages creativity, and is essential to achieve our highest levels of performance.

**A second secret is that Finland has the shortest school days and school years.** The student spends 20 hours a week at school.

**Secret Number 3 is that Finnish schools have dispensed with standardized tests.** They make students find a way to learn what makes them happy. To help students engage in activities like baking, singing, arts, nature walks, to help them actually use their brain.



In Finland, all schools are equal. If you have moved to a new locality, you won't have to shop for schools. The schools are very student-centric, the opinion of the students are considered for making decisions like revamping of schools playground. The architects who visit the school talk to the students and get their ideas.

School children are more independent. Students commute by the local subway by the time they are seven years old. They are encouraged to be what they aspire.

Surprisingly, what made Finland perform well in education are initially American ideas! They try to teach them to think for themselves and be critical to what they are learning. Teach them to be a happy person, respect others, and respect them self.

To let children have time to play, socialize with their friends, and grow as human beings because there is so much more life around than just school. India should explore these optios. Your don't have to wait for a legislatio on this.

By the way, have you heard the about "Teach Less, Learn More" (TLLM) initiative of Singapore? More on this in our next issue.

View insights on Finland education here:

<https://youtu.be/nHHFG0161Os>