

# MODULE A: STUDENT-CENTRED LEARNING

Finland's teachers are known for their student-centred approaches, based on a philosophy of education that prioritises the development of independent, life-long learners. The specific methods they use balance teacher-directed instruction with student-centred learning. This is backed by the research, which shows that a blend of these methods results in the best learning outcomes.

Globally, only few teacher training programmes support the development of student-centred learning approaches, and instead prioritise teacher-directed practice. This means that teachers tend to lack the knowledge and tools that would enable them to start using more student-centred approaches in their classrooms.



## LEARNING AIMS

In this module, the teachers will learn how to plan student-centred lessons that build on the learners' existing knowledge and skills, exploring how best to set clear student-centred learning objectives and select methods that prioritise the development of independent learning skills in their students.

### THE PARTICIPANTS WILL:

- understand why and how Finnish teachers apply a variety of student-centred methods
- learn the difference between "what to teach" and "how to teach"
- address the challenge of aligning learning objectives with activities and assessment
- understand how to improve student engagement and motivation
- explore how to address the needs of all students through differentiation and the development of effective materials and resources
- get ideas on how to promote learning through collaboration.

### THEY WILL ALSO CONSIDER:

- How information can be gathered from student-centred approaches and used for student assessment
- How to develop a supportive classroom atmosphere and improve the relationship between teacher and students
- How to design student-centred approaches that help students reflect on and apply what they have learned.

At the core of the programme is an online Community of Practice (CoP) which teachers can use to access additional material and resources, review case studies and examples of Finnish practice, share their practice and learn from one another.