

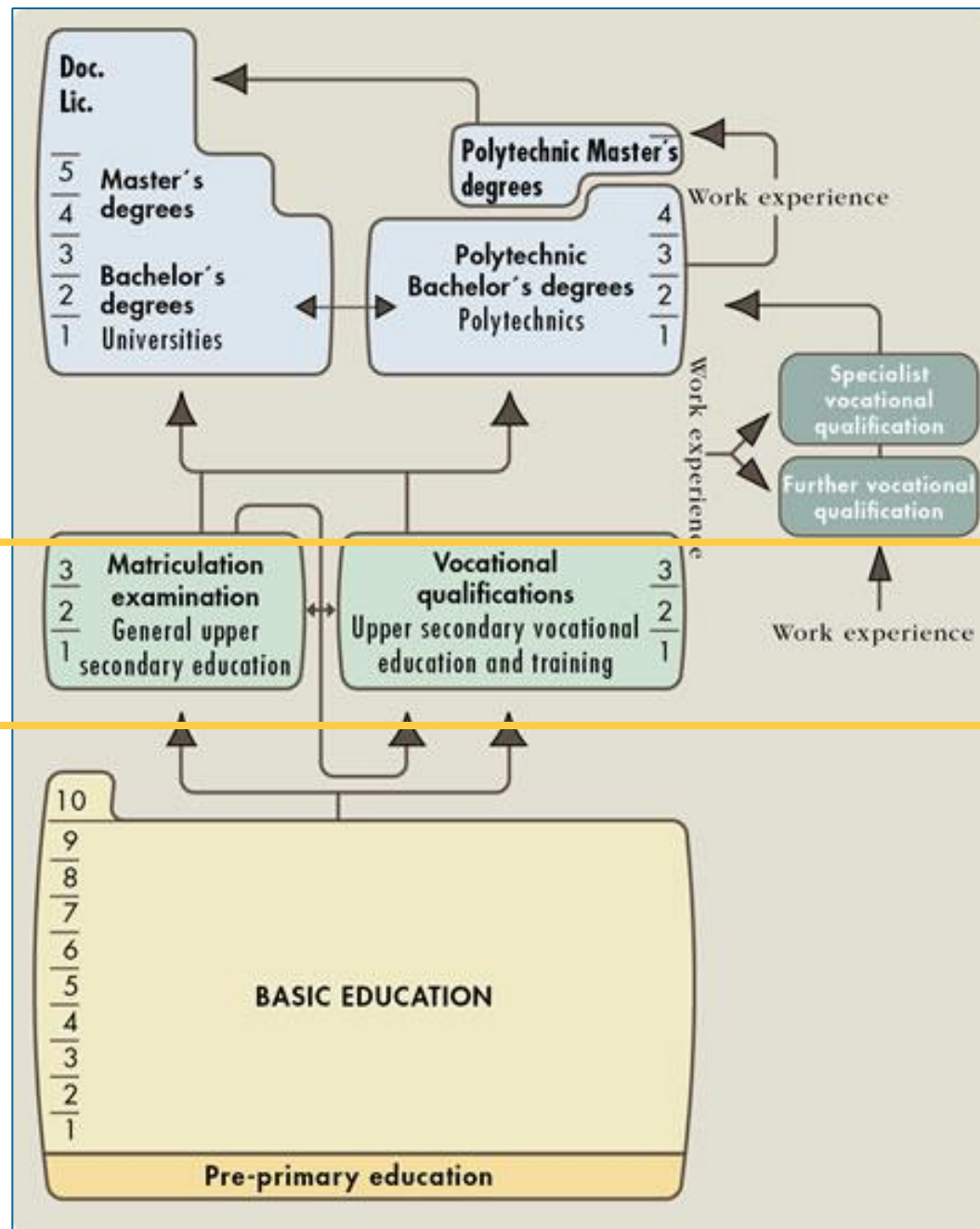
Finnish school system



FREE
- except the books
& lunches
+ study & rent grants

FREE
- except the books
+ study grant

FREE



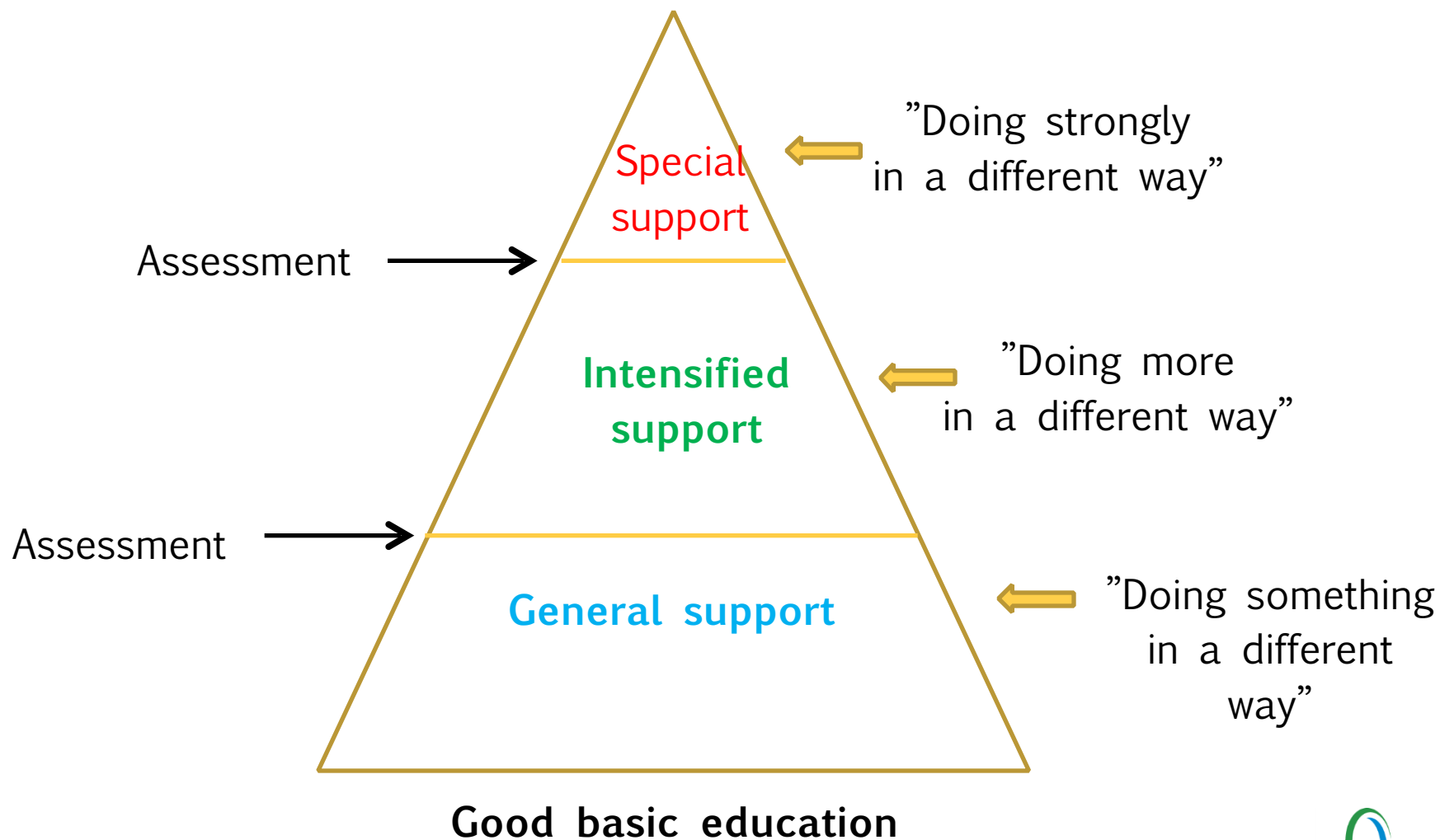
In general

- Mostly publicly funded
- Compulsory 7-17 years

Basic education (comprehensive schools)

- national curriculum ☒ city curriculum ☒ school curriculum
- Pedagogical freedom
- 190 days
- class teacher (1-6) & subject teachers (7-9/10)
- no testing - steering, not controlling
- SEN (special needs education) in mainstream schools

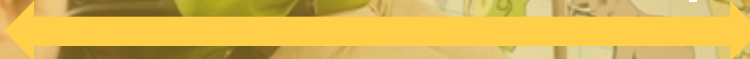
3-stage model for support



Individual Educational Plan (IEP)

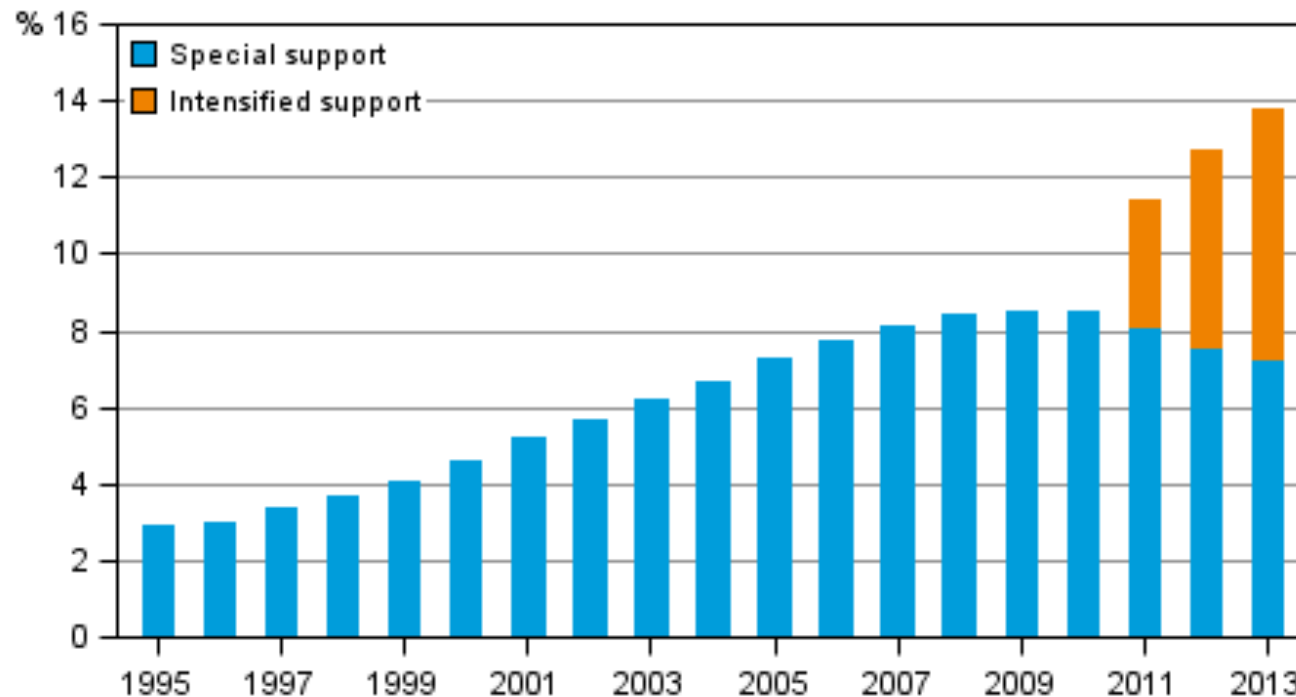
- written pedagogical document
- subjects can be individualized
- revised at least once a year

General – Intensified – Special



If considered, a pupil may move back.

Special needs education in comprehensive schools (2013)



- Intensified support: 6,5 %
- SEN-students with IEP: 7,3 %

Some reasons:

- Earlier diagnostics
- Larger need for special education
- New categories for support
- Changes in statistics
- Changes in laws

1.general support

2.intensified support

3.special support

- for pupils who cannot achieve their growth, development and learning objectives through other support measures
- an administrative decision
 - consulting the pupil and parents
- a holistic and systematic support to complete compulsory education
- Revised: after the 2nd year and before the 7th
- individual educational plan (IEP)
- Right for a learning assistant
- +1 year for people with profound disabilities

Studying according to activity areas

- divided into functional domains
 - motor skills
 - language and communication
 - social skills
 - daily living skills
 - cognitive skills

Inclusion in Finnish schools

Key principles:

- every one is individual and equal
- nearby school culture
the support comes to the pupil
- building community values in school
- from barriers to resource targeting
- teaching everyone together

Inclusion in Finnish schools

- Mainstream schools 2 576 – Special schools 105
- SEN schools ☒ learning resource centres with innovative pedagogical practices
- positive discrimination money to schools

Challenges:

- big differences in support practices between municipals
- cooperative teaching

Questions?

Opike in FAIDD

(Teaching material centre Opike)

- materials for life-long learning and rehabilitation
 - pre-school education
 - comprehensive school education
 - vocational education
 - seniors
 - immigrants
- easy-to-read language
- teaching guides and instructions
- professional literature
- training for teachers and assistants