

# HAUKKALA FOUNDATION



Haukkalan säätiö

The Haukkala\* Foundation was established in 2012 in Jyväskylä, Finland, by the Association for the private Haukkala Children's Psychiatric Hospital founded in 1954 to continue and broaden its mission to support children's welfare.

## MISSION

The purpose of the Haukkala Foundation has been defined in its registered bylaws:

*Bylaw 2 §: The purpose of the foundation is to promote mental health in children and youth by supporting research into psychiatric and psychosocial problems and social exclusion; preventive work; care and rehabilitation; training in this field; and development work and publications, in collaboration with other actors nationally and internationally.*

The efforts of the Haukkala Foundation are underpinned by the values of research-based, child-centred, and experience-based quality actions that highlight significant aspects of the well-being of children and youth, and by the values outlined in the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

## ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Annual open **Haukkala Seminars** draw together noteworthy international and Finnish speakers and local practitioners and academics and provide an opportunity to analyse current trends and problems associated with child welfare.
- ◆ **Haukkala Forums** are invitation-based annual workshops on child welfare and well-being to discuss a current topic or the theme presented in the annual seminar, and their practical implications.
- ◆ **Collaboration** with a network of diverse national and international stakeholders.
- ◆ **Initiatives** made through direct contacts with decision makers.
- ◆ **Public presentation of opinions** in talks and writings.

\*The Finnish word 'haukka' refers to a bird.

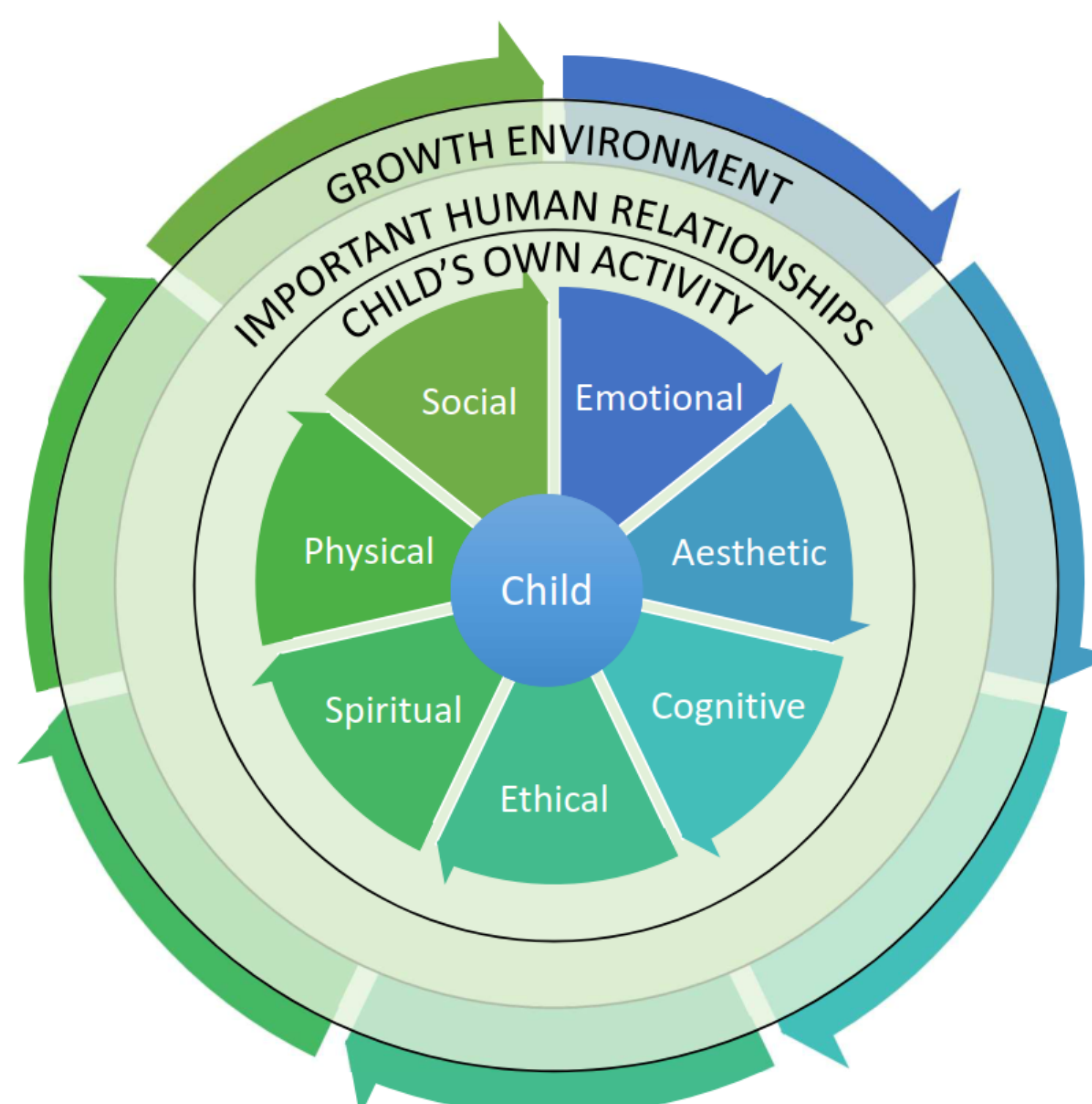
## EXAMPLES OF OUTCOMES

### 1. Cooperation with the Alliance for Childhood European Network Group (AFC)

The cooperation is indicated by the selection of Finnish speakers and MEPs for the talk sessions in the European Parliament building, editorship of the AFC publications (volumes 4-7), and the Scope of the AFC ([www.allianceforchildhood.eu](http://www.allianceforchildhood.eu)). The latter integrates into each other the image of the child formulated within the AFC and the description of the dimensions of and conditions for children's wellbeing formulated within the Haukkala Foundation.

### 2. The Children's Programme for Central Finland

The focus was to create a diverse joint commitment within the province of Central Finland to develop a child- and family friendly environment that supports children's development and well-being on physical, social, emotional, aesthetic, cognitive, ethical and spiritual dimensions as illustrated in the figure below.



The Growth Model: the dimensions of and conditions for children's wellbeing.  
Source: Pulkkinen & Fadjukoff (2018).

The conditions for children's development and well-being in each dimension of the model include: the child's own activity and participation; important human relationships in which the child is seen and listened to as an individual; and total growth environment that includes the child's protection and care from micro-system to macro-system. All these elements appear in the child's many life circles from home and family to digital environment. This work became integrated into one of the Finnish Government's key programmes (2015–2018): to reform services for children and families.

The Children's Programme challenges various organizations in Central Finland to consider children in their policies, and to include child and family friendly actions in their strategies and activities. It demands much work on the outer layer of the figure. The efforts of the Haukkala Foundation have received positive publicity.

### 3. Direct contacts

The Finnish Government (2019–2022) presented in its programme that it wants to advance all children's equal possibilities for having interesting club activities in the school context. The Haukkala Foundation with the support of eight NGOs approached the new Minister of Science and Culture with a letter in which the importance of the goal was highlighted with some specific problems to be considered, and the 20-year history of various initiatives described. It was proposed in the letter that the Minister would start the reform of the legislation instead of establishing again a new project.

The Minister responded quickly with a friendly letter in which she admitted that our proposal will be included in the work of the group of ministers for child and youth politics.

The Foundation has the Board of eight expert members chaired by Professor Lea Pulkkinen. The Board Secretary is Päivi Fadjukoff, Adjunct Professor.

Website:  
<https://haukkalansaatio.com/in-english>