



Wings and roots – Structures and tools for Social Inclusion and Diversity in Vantaa ECEC



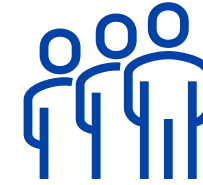
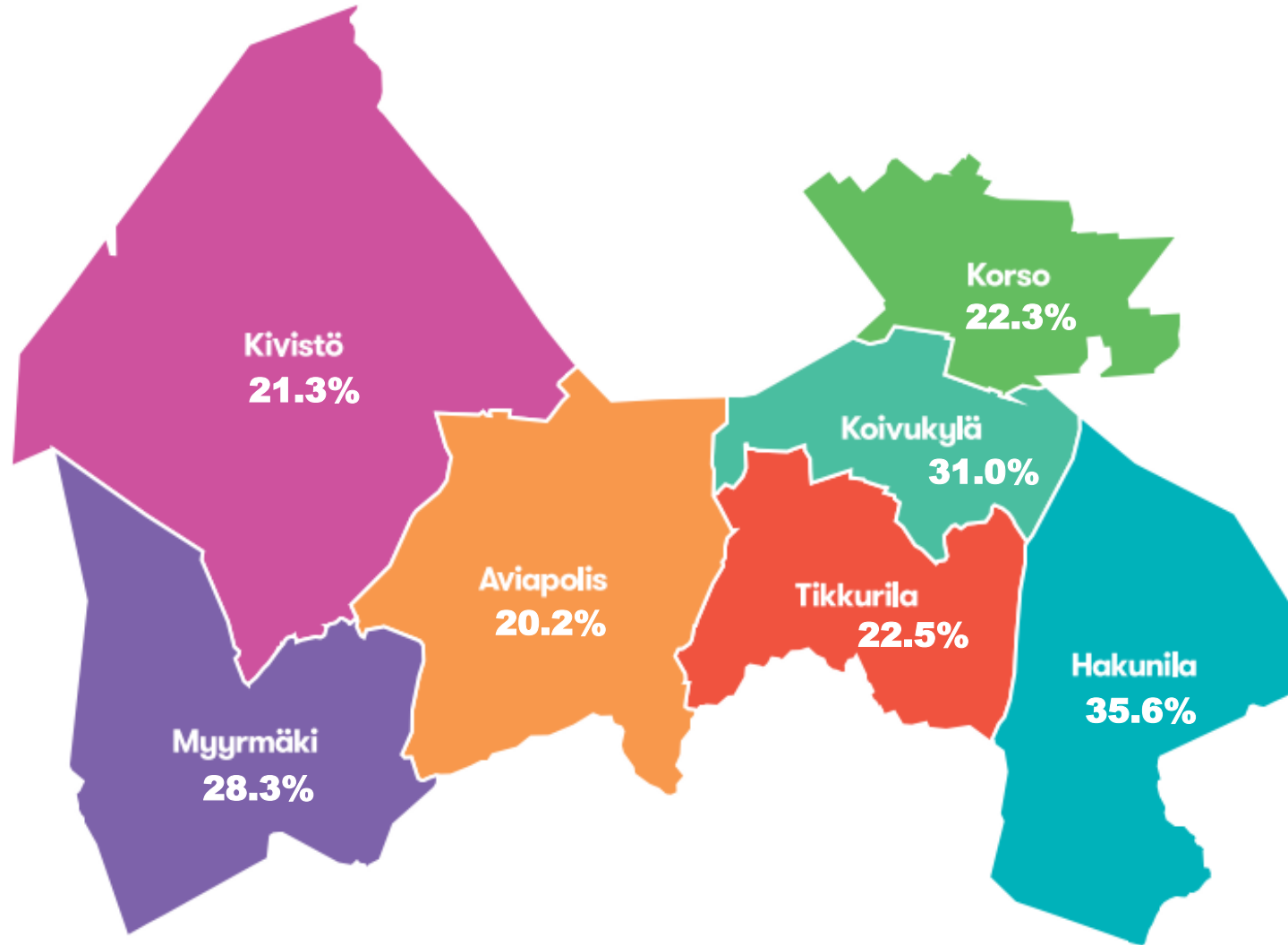
Soile Granholm, Early Childhood
Education Specialist – City of Vantaa



Young and international



Foreign-language speakers in Vantaa (percentage of population in the area)



Whole population
250,000



Foreign-language speakers (mother tongue)
26.9%,

Number of languages
120+

**Top 6 mother tongues in ECEC;
Albanian, Arabic, Russian,
Somali, Estonian, English.**

**35,6% of ECEC children speak
other languages than Finnish as
their mother tongue.**



The number of Vantaa residents is

250,000,

and according to the latest
forecasts, in 2040, the number
may rise to

300,000.



**More than half of Vantaa
residents are under-40-
year-olds.** UNICEF's Child
Friendly City program
invests a significant part of
its budget into children and
the young.

In 2024, Vantaa
founded a novel kind of
**jubilee year
fund**

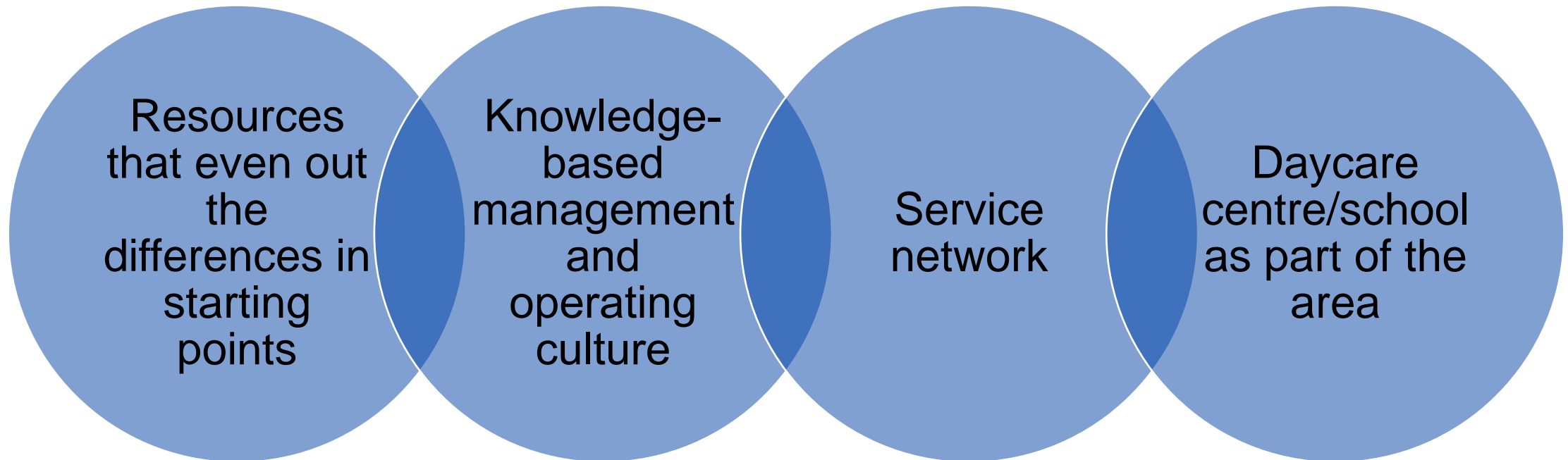
to support hobbies for children
and the young.



Educational Equity – Preventing Segregation



Means of reducing segregation in the Education and Learning Division



Measures for Educational Equity

Needs-based resource allocation

Many professionals: language and cultural coordinators, unit level developing ECEC teachers and Social pedagogues

Day Care buildings and infrastructure

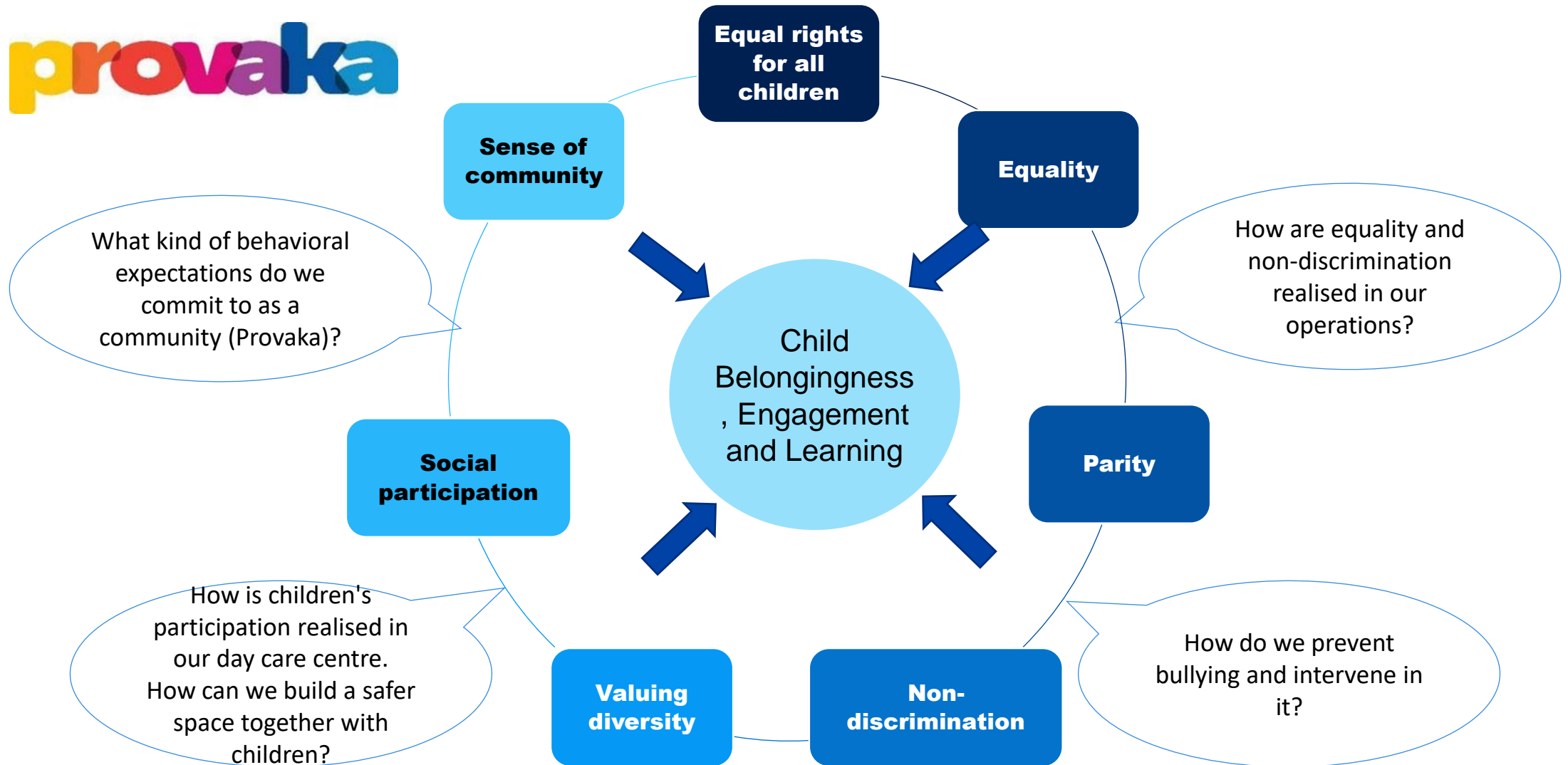
Motivating the teachers
E.g. salary, training

Language aware teaching, F2 teaching, Preparatory teaching for children at age 6

Collective work at day Care Centres



Values as the foundation of the operating culture



Vantaa Pre Primary School curriculum tools



Knowledge tools

Vantaa city pre primary school curriculum and preparatory education curriculum

Handbook for Language, Culture and World views Early Childhood Education

Handbook for the children's support

Pre-primary Education Student Welfare Handbook

Digital Pedagogy Programme

Environmental Education work Cards

Physical education work cards

Esikko Handbook

From preschool to first grade – co-operation

Induction and maintenance training

EOPS Toolkit

In-depth, on-demand tools and support materials

Tools for planning, evaluating, developing, and concentrating

Academic year plan of the pre-primary education unit

Action plan for the child group

Management and development plan for the operating unit

Child's preschool plan

Individual student welfare report

Preschool Airplane

Joint action plan for pre-primary and primary education

LanguagePeda - tool

Practices for the beginning and transitions

Developmental assessment tools

provaka



DEVELOPING AN INCLUSIVE CULTURE



Child's overall wellbeing in focus

Enlarged learning environments support children's natural curiosity and desire to learn, as well as to play and express themselves

Participation, engagement, interaction, inclusion

Children's interests, strengths and needs as the basis of the learning process

Childs' Individual plans for learning



Supporting child's language learning



- The staff encourages children to engage in a discussion that interests them and in which they are able to participate.
- The staff takes into account that each child's language development progresses individually (interaction skills, language comprehension, speech production, language use skills, linguistic memory and vocabulary, language awareness).
- The speech produced by the child proceeds through the following stages: pointing, naming, telling, descriptive and cause-and-effect relationships.



Hepopuisto Day Care Centre, Vantaa

Developing Learning Environment



- The diversity of the images and play equipment of the learning environment shows.
- The pictures and toys depict ethnically different looking children, adults and the elderly (e.g. baby dolls, Dublo and Lego figurines, Barbies, paper dolls, dollhouse figurines, puzzles, national dolls, textiles, role-playing clothes, tableware for home play).
- The pictures also show e.g. people in wheelchairs, hearing and visual impairments, as well as diverse families.





**Supporting
childs'
identity –
teaching
children and
families to be
proud of their
roots.**

Kuva: Ravurinpuiston päiväkoti

Thank you!