**School Profile – [Name of school]**

**Year Name of school**

Address:

Postal code:

City:

Province:

Country:

Phone number:

Website:

Principal:

Counselors:

E-mail addresses of

counselors:

**Dutch high school system**

Children ranging from the ages 4-12 attend elementary school. Neither examinations nor any selection procedures are required to attend any elementary schools. In their final year of elementary school students take a final standardized test, named CITO. This test measures the student’s ability to understand Mathematics, Dutch and to process statistics and general knowledge. The scores range from 500 to 550. The teacher advises the pupil to continue his or her education at a particular level. In addition, the pupil’s grades from all years weigh into this advice. In the Netherlands secondary education is offered at 4 levels:

1. VMBO (4 years): least demanding level of secondary education. 60% of the high school students in the Netherlands attend secondary education at this level.
2. HAVO (5 years): intermediate level of secondary education (level is comparable with normal high school courses in the United States). 30% of the high school students attend secondary education at this level.
3. VWO/Athenaeum (6 years): one of the two highest levels of secondary education. It is also called pre-university education. Students attend classes that are at the highest-level possible, which are comparable to AP courses in the United States. Only 10% of the students qualify to attend it, and in fact, only 6% actually does so.
4. VWO/Gymnasium (6 years): the courses are at the same level as Athenaeum, granting them a similar diploma. Students attending Gymnasium, however, also ought to study classical languages and cultures, and should complete a final examination in at least one classical language. Gymnasium is slightly harder than Athenaeum, because the numbers of hours available is the same as Athenaeum. Only 10% of the students qualify to enter and only 4% does so.

Only students with a VWO diploma (Either an athenaeum or gymnasium diploma) are eligible to apply to research universities in the Netherlands after their graduation.

**Dutch high school students**

Dutch students attend class for approximately **[number]** hours a week, **[number]** weeks a year. They are expected to spend **[amount]** of time on their homework. The great majority of courses is academic. Students are expected to be seriously involved in only one or two major activities, in or outside of school. Therefore, the opportunity for extracurricular activities is limited. Most schools do not expect students to become involved in community service. The opportunity for this is almost non-existent for high school students.

All this is general information and may differ per school.

Finally, students are allowed to apply to any high school they want to as long as they comply with the school’s admission requirements. Their choice of school is not limited by hometown.

**Examinations**

All students who graduate from high school obtain a graduation list naming the subjects in which they completed the final exam and their grades. In the final year, students take school administered exams, which account for 50% of their final grade and National exams ('Central Exam'), which accounts for the other half of the grade. The final central exams (Centraal examen) take place in senior year in May, although some final exams may be taken in an earlier year. These exams are administered in every high school at the same time and are controlled by the Dutch Ministry of Education. All students take the same exam on the same date.

**Community**

**Include information about the location, population in the region, and school community.**

**The school**

**Include description of school, mission, and any other relevant information.**

**Also include a description of education levels offered at school and specific programs, extracurricular activities and honors programs available to students.**

**Passing criteria**

**Include passing criteria and graduation statistics**

**Awards**

We do not offer awards. **Optional: Our school participates in some national competitions such as [example]. However, it is worth noting that, it is hard for a student to obtain an award.**

**Curriculum**

**Courses on offer, profielen**

Students typically take **[number]** classes. Courses last the entire school year. **Optional: Some strong students are also allowed to take one or two additional supplemental subjects. Those supplemental subjects, however, do not fit in the student’s schedule and should, in case chosen, be studied by the student himself or herself without attending the classes. Because of this difficulty and the fact that Dutch students are very busy, it is very rare that students take one supplemental subject or rarer if they take two supplemental subjects.**

All courses in school are instructed in Dutch except for some foreign language classes, such as English, French and German.

**Grading**

Tests are graded on a scale from 1 to 10. Grading might vary per test. Grades are assigned for every correct answer that has been given. Generally speaking, 90% correct answers result to an 8 or 9. It is worth noting that it frequently happens that a 7 is the highest grade on a test.

Grades 8 and 9 are regarded as extremely good. Often not more than 2 students obtain an 8 or 9. In order to get a 10, the student should answer every question on a test correctly. A 10, therefore, is very hard to obtain.

**GPA**

An unweighted GPA is stated on the transcripts for each year and each particular subject. Due the strict grading policy, it is difficult to obtain an 8 or 9 as an average for a subject. **According to NUFFIC[[1]](#footnote-1), an organization for international cooperation in higher education in line with the Dutch Government, an average of 8, on VWO level, can be compared to an A or 4.0 in the United States.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Table 1**  ***YEAR*** *mean of the examinations grades in our school* | |
| Geography |  |
| Biology |  |
| German |  |
| Economics |  |
| English |  |
| French |  |
| Philosophy |  |
| History |  |
| Greek |  |
| Latin |  |
| Management and organization |  |
| Music |  |
| Physics |  |
| Dutch |  |
| Chemistry |  |
| Drawing |  |
| Mathematics A |  |
| Mathematics B |  |
| Mathematics C |  |

**Ranking**

Ranking students is not common among Dutch schools.

**College entry**

After graduation around **[percentage]** of the **[havo/vwo]** graduates attend an undergraduate study at a **Dutch university of applied sciences/research university.**

1. **Nuffic. (n.d.). Grading systems in the Netherlands, the United States and the United Kingdom. Retrieved from** [**https://www.nuffic.nl/en/subjects/education-in-the-netherlands/**](https://www.nuffic.nl/en/subjects/education-in-the-netherlands/) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)