**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 primary school. In their final year of primary school students take a final standardized test. The test results, in combination with the teacher’s advice, allow the pupil to continue his or her education at a particular level. In the Netherlands secondary education is offered at 4 levels:

1. VMBO (4 years): least demanding level of secondary education. 49% 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). 23% of the high school students attend secondary education at this level. A havo diploma allows students to enroll at a university of applied sciences, which offers a 4 year bachelor’s degree.
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. 22% of the high school students attends secondary education at this level. A vwo diploma allows students to enroll directly at a research university, which offers 3 year bachelor’s degrees.
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.

The four types differ in course difficulty as well as requirements for 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, therefore, Dutch students spend most of their time doing schoolwork, leaving little time for extracurricular activities.

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.

**Curriculum**

Students take compulsory subjects with a broad orientation in the first three years followed by common compulsory subjects and subjects for more in-depth specialization.

At the end of year 3, pupils choose one of the four available subject combinations: Culture and Society, Economics and Society, Nature and Health or Nature and Technology.

In their final year, students also choose a topic of personal interest for an Independent Research Project.

**Examinations**

All students who graduate from high school have a graduation list with subjects completed and the grades obtained for these subjects.

To be able to graduate from high school, examinations are required at the end of the senior year. The final grade consists of 50% School examinations (SE) and 50% Central examinations (CE). The CE examinations are government-controlled. They are the same for every student graduating from a certain level, regardless of the specific school attended. Therefore, results of these examinations can be used to compare students from different schools and to compare the educational level of schools. The other 50% of the final grade shown on the graduation list is obtained through internal examinations throughout the high school career. Examinations differ from school to school, and the difficulty level and grading scale differ as well. Some subjects have no CE examination and are only tested through internal exams.

**Grading**

In the Netherlands, the traditional grading scale is from 1 through to 10, where 1 is the

lowest and 10 the highest grade. The pass mark for a single subject is 5.5, but for school

leaving examinations, where six or more subjects are examined, two 5s or one 4 may be

condoned if compensated by high grades in other subjects. Grades 1 through to 4 are very

rarely given, and the same is true for grades 9 and 10.

Grading practice in the Netherlands differs from that in the United States inasmuch as the

top grades (9 and 10) are rarely awarded, regardless of the actual achievements of a given

group of students. When the 1 through 10 scale was officially introduced back in the late 19th

century, it was decided that a 10 should only be awarded in cases of absolute perfection. A 9 was considered to be only a slightly less impossible goal to reach. With the advent of multiple choice testing, 10s and 9s actually came within reach of ambitious students. To this day, however, these grades are still very rarely awarded in oral examinations or open question testing such as essays, presentations, project reports or dissertations.

**School information**

**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.**

**Selection and 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.

**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.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Table 1**  ***YEAR*** *mean of the examinations grades in our school* | |
| Ancient Greek |  |
| Biology |  |
| Business economics |  |
| Chemistry |  |
| Computer science |  |
| Dutch |  |
| Drama |  |
| Economics |  |
| English |  |
| French |  |
| Geography |  |
| German |  |
| History |  |
| Latin |  |
| Mathematics A |  |
| Mathematics B |  |
| Mathematics C |  |
| Mathematics D |  |
| Music |  |
| Nature, Life and Technology |  |
| Philosophy |  |
| Physics |  |
| Religion |  |
| Sociology |  |

**Ranking**

Ranking students is not common among Dutch schools.

**College entry / university matriculation**

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

Our graduates have been accepted into all Dutch universities as well as **list foreign university here.**