

# Attention makes everything grow!

## Our core story

Attention makes everything grow! At the Wijzer aan de Vecht, we opt for positive attention and appreciation. That helps children grow. They feel stimulated and are therefore happier and better able to learn a lot, and reach their full potential. Our teachers provide a safe workplace in the group, where positivity, calm and regularity prevails, and a nice, inspiring atmosphere. Thanks to our enriching curriculum with technology and English, a lot of attention is given to research and design learning.

We think it is important that children enjoy going to school with great results. The children learn that working together and living together works better with honest, personal attention. Attention from the teacher, from parents, from each other and ... attention for each other.

By working from a basis of trust, the student is better motivated. Personal attention is our magic word.

## Highlights

Many highlights during our school year revolve around attention, personal attention. Examples of this are a sporting achievement for a good cause, participating in sports tournaments, visits to the theatre performance/museums, musical, camp and school trip. One of the highlights of our school programme is also the theme week 'Technology' where learned basic skills are practised and placed in a context. These 'toppers' provide unforgettable education for children due to the strong involvement.

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## **Pedagogical/didactic environment**

Our school is focused on learning a lot. With attention to everyone's own development and capacities, we provide tailor-made education and care. We make clear demands on children and offer a structured educational programme.

- Language, reading and arithmetic receive a lot of attention.
- English is taught in all classes.
- A lot of attention is given to research that is explicitly reflected in the science & technology lessons.
- Children who are more gifted go to the 'plus class' every week.

In our pedagogical climate, safety, peace, respect and solidarity are important values. We teach children conflict management and mediation. And we teach them to stand up for themselves in an honest way, with attention for their own interests and that of the other.

### **Science, Nature and Technology (WNT)**

At our school we work structurally on science, nature and technology. We have a well-equipped WNT room. Every week, all children of years 4 to 8 follow classes in the WNT classroom from the class teacher together with the course teacher WNT. The children of years 1 to 3 also have their own Techniekstraat and follow WNT classes from their own class teacher.

Once a year we organise a theme week revolving around a scientific topic.

During science, nature and technology, pupils learn about various subjects and skills and learn to learn and design. Students develop '21st century' skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, problem-solving ability and communication. In this way the school offers students, besides a good basis, challenging, enriching and innovative education, and a lot of attention for the talents of pupils.

For more information, go to the [WNT website of the Wijzer aan de Vecht](#).

### **English and EarlyBird**

From year 1 onwards, all children follow English classes. This school year we hope to obtain the EarlyBird school certificate.

In the first years of school, the children are offered various playful activities that are in line with the experience of the young child. There is implicit language acquisition. From year 5 on, learning English becomes more explicit with a lot of attention for reading and writing. Language production is the main focus. Children are given the opportunity to speak, read and write English. By using digital teaching materials, children are exposed to 'native English'.

# Mission and vision

Our vision is concisely summarised in our motto:

*Attention makes everything grow!*

## **End profile student:**

When a student leaves our school he has developed himself optimally. He has first of all learned a lot and also had fun doing so, partly because of our enriching curriculum with technology and English. Because a Wijzer aan de Vecht pupil is constantly stimulated in his own strength and personal development, he knows his possibilities and is able to use them. He has an inquiring, enterprising attitude and possesses the necessary perseverance to tackle tasks independently or in good cooperation and to solve any problems or issues in a creative way. He can look critically at himself, his work and his relations and has the ability to resolve conflicts constructively.

He understands other cultures and has learned to communicate respectfully and to cooperate. He looks positively and confidently at his further education and the society of tomorrow. In society, it is becoming increasingly important that children not only learn to read and calculate well, but that they also develop as independent citizens of the world who can think critically, cooperate well and are responsible for their own learning process. In the coming years we will continue to develop in order to offer the children contemporary education. Our focus over the next four years is on encouraging both the teacher and the student to use his own strength and potential in his personal development.

## **Building and facilities**

Catholic primary school Wijzer aan de Vecht was originally founded in 1937 as De Salvator School by the Sisters Augustinian. Later it became De Carrousel. In 2015 the school was completely renovated, with a number of original details preserved. That makes the building very unique. Contemporary and modern, but with a historic touch! After the renovation the school got the name Wijzer aan de Vecht.

## **Decor building and schoolyard**

In our renovated building you can clearly see that attention is a central value for us. It is an inviting building with a meeting place for everyone and a parent's room that symbolises our openness and involvement.

At the facility and the facilities you see that good learning, researching and discovering learning in a nice atmosphere is our main goal. Rooms for technology have been set up for this purpose on both floors. The gaming room can also be used as a theatre stage where students can hold performances and presentations. The playground has challenging equipment. In short, a child-friendly environment where there is much to discover.

For the gym classes we use the gym next to the Prinses Margrietschool. Twice a week, all children receive physical education from a course teacher.

## **Teacher qualities**

The school team of Wijzer aan de Vecht is a committed and close-knit team that pays a lot of attention to the pupils and their parents. Because of our small-scale approach, we know each student personally. The school team excels in positive example behavior. We assume the positive, the opportunities and the possibilities.

Our school team is skilled and works purposefully to improve its own capacities and those of the students. We are team-oriented and help each other out, in the interests of the pupil and our education. Our team has specialists in various fields.

## **Extracurricular partners**

The most important partners for the development of our pupils are parents. We therefore have the conviction that the learning process can best be established together with the parents. Parents as educational partner. That is why we pay a lot of attention to parental involvement.

Meetings are organised annually:

- Per class to know what children learn during the year
- Informally during a coffee morning
- After an appointment with the teacher or school management

On a didactic level, we work together with numerous organisations to enrich and improve education, so that students learn more. We have our own technical teacher from Eduscience who, together with our teachers, offers lessons to the groups, and provides up-to-date training and teaching materials. We are also a VVE school (Early Childhood Education) and have a close cooperation with the indoor toddler group of Spelenderwijs.

We work together with, among others:

## **Catholic School Foundation Utrecht**

The Catholic School Foundation Utrecht (KSU) is a professional organisation for primary education. Some 665 employees directly or indirectly provide education for 6,300 children. The KSU controls and manages in the city of Utrecht [26 primary schools divided over 32 locations](#).

### **Core values**

The Catholic identity is the source from which daily work is performed at school. It is these six core values that connect us and give direction:

- simplicity

- attention
- space
- responsibility
- innovation
- joy

### **Mission: more than a basis**

The KSU wants to offer more than just good quality basic education. How do we do that?

- Within a social context. Our qualitative and challenging education is embedded in warmth, involvement and attention.
- With a rich curriculum. We ensure that students can develop their talents across the board.
- In an ambitious learning environment. We challenge every student to discover and develop their own talents.

### **Vision: The student excels**

Our education offers the challenge, attention and care that students need to excel. The KSU creates the preconditions for this: good facilities, relevant and strong partners, a challenging and professional environment and 'space'. Space to develop, innovate and take responsibility.

[The student excels!](#) That is the ambition.

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Once a year we organise a theme week revolving around a scientific topic.

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For more information, go to the [WNT website van de Wijzer aan de Vecht](#)

### **English and EarlyBird**

From year 1 all children get English. **In May 2017 we obtained the EarlyBird school certificate.**

In the first years of school, the children are offered various playful activities that are in line with the experience of the young child. There is implicit language acquisition. From year 5 onwards, learning English becomes more explicit with a lot of attention given to reading and writing. Language production is the main focus. Children are given the opportunity to speak,

read and write English. By using digital teaching materials, children are exposed to 'native English'.

## **Broad Schools Zuilen Oost**

# **You discover your talent at the Brede School Zuilen - Oost!**

Wijzer aan de Vecht, the Prinses Margriet School, de Cirkel, Ludens, Spelenderwijs, Harten voor Sport & Me'kaar together form the Broad School Zuilen - Oost. We organise joint after-school activities, where your child can discover his or her talent.

**Curious about which activities we are currently offering? Look at the website: <http://bredeschoolutrecht.nl/zuilen-oost/>.**

Does your child want to try out a sport? This is possible at the Buurtsportclub, for a period of ten weeks. Go to the site and register your child quickly