Dutch Education System

- Structure of Education in the Netherlands
- The position of teacher education
1. Structure of Education in the Netherlands

Freedom of Education

Article 23 of the constitution guarantees the freedom:

• to found schools
• to organise the teaching in schools
• to determine the principles on which the teaching is based
Structure of Education in the Netherlands

Regular School System (95.1% of all students)

Special Needs Education (4.9% of all students)

Primary Education (Bao)

Higher professional education (HBO)

Secondary Vocational education (MBO)

Practical Training (Pro)

Pre-university education (VWO)

Secondary Special Education (Cluster I)

Secondary Special Education (Cluster II)

Secondary Special Education (Cluster III)

Secondary Special Education (Cluster IV)

Special Primary Education (SBO)

Moderate Learning and Behavioural difficulties

University Education (WO)

Senior general Secondary Education (HAVO)

Pre-vocational secondary education (VMBO)

Secondary Special Education (Cluster I)

Secondary Special Education (Cluster II)

Secondary Special Education (Cluster III)

Secondary Special Education (Cluster IV)

Higher professional education (HBO)

Secondary Vocational education (MBO)

Practical Training (Pro)
Primary education (ISCED 0, 1)

Regular School System

Special Needs Education

Moderate Learning and Behavioural difficulties

Primary Education (Bao)

Special Primary Education (SBO)

Higher professional education (HBO)

Secondary Vocational education (MBO)

Pre-vocational secondary education (VMBO)

Pre-university education (VWO)

University Education (WO)

Secondary Education (HAVO)

Senior general Secondary Education (HAO)

Practical Training (Pro)

Secondary Special Education Cluster I

Secondary Special Education Cluster II

Secondary Special Education Cluster III

Secondary Special Education Cluster IV

Regular School System

Secondary Special Education Cluster IV

Special Needs Education

Special Education Cluster IV

Special Education Cluster III

Special Education Cluster II

Special Education Cluster I
Primary education

- Attainment targets: what a pupil is expected to have learned at the end of primary education

- Selection for secondary education: End of primary school test (Citotest)

Numbers and size (2008):

- Number of pupils: 1,663,700
- Number of schools: 7,534
- Average number of pupils at a school: 221
Secondary education (ISCED 2, 3)

Regular School System

Special Needs Education

Moderate Learning and Behavioural difficulties

University Education (WO)

Higher professional education (HBO)

Secondary Vocational education (MBO)

Pre-vocational secondary education (VMBO)

Practical Training (Pro)

Secondary Special Education

Cluster I

Secondary Special Education

Cluster II

Secondary Special Education

Cluster III

Secondary Special Education

Cluster IV

Primary Education (Bao)

Special Primary Education (SBO)

Special Education

Cluster I

Special Education

Cluster II

Special Education

Cluster III

Special Education

Cluster IV
Secondary education

Two streams:

1. Senior general secondary education (HAVO) and pre-university education (VWO)
   → Tertiary education (HBO and WO)

2. Pre-vocational education (VMBO)
   → Secondary vocational education (MBO)

Numbers and size (2008):

- Number of pupils: 788,800
- Number of schools: 647
- Average number of pupils at a school: 1,391
Moderate Learning and behavioural difficulties

Regular School System

Special Needs Education

University Education (WO)

Higher professional education (HBO)

Secondary Vocational education (MBO)

Pre-vocational secondary education (VMBO)

Practical Training (Pro)

Secondary Special Education

Cluster I

Secondary Special Education

Cluster II

Secondary Special Education

Cluster III

Secondary Special Education

Cluster IV

Primary Education (Bao)

Special Primary Education (SBO)

Special Needs Education

Moderate Learning and Behavioural difficulties
Moderate Learning and behavioural difficulties

Special Primary Education (SBO):

- Primary Education
- Same attainment targets
- Number of pupils (2008): 44,100

Practical Training (pro):

- a qualification at the lowest vmbo-level is out of reach
- Number of pupils (2008): 26,900
Special education (ISCED 0, 1, 2)

Regular School System

Special Needs Education

Special Education Cluster IV

Primary Education (Bao)

Pre-university education (VWO)

Senior general Secondary Education (HAO)

Higher professional education (HBO)

Secondary Vocational education (MBO)

Practical Training (Pro)

Secondary Special Education Cluster I

Special Primary Education Cluster I

Secondary Special Education Cluster II

Special Primary Education Cluster II

Secondary Special Education Cluster III

Special Primary Education Cluster III

Secondary Special Education Cluster IV

Special Primary Education Cluster IV

Moderate Learning and Behavioural difficulties
Special Needs Education - I

Clusters:

1. Visually handicapped

2. Hearing impediments or communicative handicaps

3. Physically, mentally and multi-handicapped pupils

4. Behavioural disorders
Special Needs Education - II

Special Education

• Number of students: 34,500

Secondary Special Education

• Number of students: 31,700

Pupil-Bound Budget (2003) / Peripatetic supervision

• in mainstream primary education: 18,600
• In mainstream secondary education: 17,100
Peripatetic Supervision

Regular School System

Special Needs Education

Moderate Learning and Behavioural difficulties

University Education (WO)

Pre-university education (VWO)

Higher professional education (HBO)

Pre-vocational secondary education (VMBO)

Senior general Secondary Education (HAVO)

Secondary Vocational education (MBO)

Primary Education (Bao)

Special Primary Education (SBO)

Practical Training (Pro)

Secondary Special Education Cluster I

Secondary Special Education Cluster II

Secondary Special Education Cluster III

Secondary Special Education Cluster IV

Special Education Cluster I

Special Education Cluster II

Special Education Cluster III

Special Education Cluster IV
Peripatetic Supervision

Numbers receiving peripatetic supervision
From special and secondary special education, numbers x 1000

- In mainstream primary schools
- In special primary schools
- In secondary schools

2. The position of teacher education

Pre-service training programme for primary education:
• 4 years, HBO level
• all curriculum subjects

Pre-service training programme for secondary education:
• 4 years, HBO level or University level
• Specific subject (i.e. physics, english, history etc.)

Master of Special Educational Needs
• 2 years, part-time training
• Majority of teachers in special education
Competence Profiles

Professions in education act (Wet BIO, 2004)

• School boards are obliged to take competent staff into their employment

• Teacher training colleges use these competences as a guideline to their educational programme

• An independant organisation (NVAO) accredits the teacher training colleges
Links

Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW)
http://english.minocw.nl/

SBL – Competence Profiles
http://www.lerarenweb.nl/lerarenweb-english.html