



Netherlands

Age : 14 to 18 1/2

— HIGH SCHOOL ABROAD

## High school exchange in the Netherlands

### SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

The Dutch school system is quite innovative in terms of pedagogy, where students learn from a young age to work individually and to take responsibility for their own studies.

An orientation week is organized on arrival by the local coordinator which includes a Dutch course. Besides the fun activities, the local coordinator also has a lot of informative activities, such as the Dutch classes, an intercultural workshop and a presentation which will prepare students on their life in The Netherlands. Students will experience the Dutch summer, their first bike ride in the country, their first visit to a Dutch city and much more.

### SCHOOL SYSTEM

Primary school goes from age 4 to 12 and High School goes from age 12 to 18. International students are placed in class 4 or 5 (10th and 11th grade). Besides the five mandatory subjects: Dutch, English, Gymnastics, Social Science, Cultural Arts, students may also choose two elective subjects. School normally starts at 08:30 am and ends around 3:00 pm.

International students are taught in Dutch.

The Dutch school system is well known around the world. In the Netherlands students learn from a young age to work individually and to take responsibility of their own study. Students learn to plan and to work efficient on their own, teacher encourage students to have an opinion and discuss topics without being disrespectful.

- Basic: Age 4 to 12
- High School Age 12 to 18 (Depending on the level)
- College Age 18 to 21 (It can be longer depending on the level)

Havo/VWO: These are the higher levels for the high schools. This stream of high school will be done in a period of 5 or 6 years.

The school year runs from mid August to late June. Graduation is not possible.



**Location :** All over the country

**Boarding :** Full board

**Accommodation :** Host family

**Length :** Semester / Academic Year

**Type :** Public



International students who choose an academic year in the Netherlands live with a volunteer host family and attend a local high school.

The Dutch host family welcomes an exchange student as a family member in their home.

By participating in the Dutch every-day life the students will experience a new way of living and a different culture.

Application deadline : May 15th for arrival in August (October 15th for arrival in January). Late applications may be accepted (late application fees charged), depending on availability and visa processing times.

Requirements : Students must be interviewed in their home country before being accepted. One year minimum of Dutch language study, as well as at least 4 years of English proficiency (a mandatory ELTIS test score required) and good academic results (minimum C average) are required. Students should speak and understand some basic sentences in Dutch.