



ECNAIS

European Council of National Associations of Independent Schools

QUESTIONNAIRE ELTERNLOBBY.CH (SWITZERLAND) FOR ECNAIS MEMBERS

Niederlande

Robert Jan de Vries April 2014

1. What types of schools are there in your country?

- State schools ('openbare scholen')
- Independent/private schools ('bijzondere scholen'), including religious schools

2. How much% of students attend which schools?

- State schools : 28%
- Private Schools / Independent schools (charter schools, alternative schools): 72%
 - under which Religious schools: 55%

3. Do "Religious Schools" and "free schools" belong to the group of private schools or do they belong to their own group?

They belong to the group of private schools.

CURRICULUM AND EVALUATION

State schools

1. Is the education system centrally or regionally organized?

The education system in the Netherlands is centrally organized.

2. How detailed and obligatory is the curriculum?

There is no obliged national curriculum. Instead, schools have to reach a number of so called core targets ('kerndoelen') with their students. Schools are to a large extent free to determine the way along which they reach those targets.

3. Who created the curriculum and determines the textbooks?

See answer 2: schools create their curriculum and are free to choose educational tools including textbooks.

4. Who evaluates the schools and how are they evaluated?

The national educational inspectorate evaluates the schools by monitoring the educational results and some aspects of the educational process. The Inspectorate also takes in account the financial situation of the school, the way it is governed and the extent to which the school complies with the educational laws.

5. Does the inspectorate only have an advisory role?

No, the inspectorate has an assessing role as well.



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6. Who will know the results of the evaluation?

The results of the evaluations are published on the website of the inspectorate, so they are available to the public.

Private schools, independent schools, religious schools

1. Can these schools create their own curriculum and have their own textbooks?

Non-state schools can create their own curriculum and have their own textbooks, just like state schools. They have to reach the mentioned core targets. See answer 2 and 3 above.

2. Who evaluates the schools and how are they evaluated?

The national educational inspectorate evaluates non-state schools in the same way as it evaluates state schools. See answer 4 above.

3. How big is the freedom of education (religious, philosophical, pedagogical)?

The freedom of education is quite big. In fact among the biggest in the world.

FINANCING

1. Who finances the different types of schools?

The state finances 100% of all regular schools (except for a few 'privately owned schools', which still have to meet certain criteria)

2. Please specify in%.

See answer 1

3. How are the different types of schools financed?

See answer 1

4. Financed by global budgets or with per-child packages or training voucher?

The financing is to a large extent dependent on the number of pupils visiting the school.

PARENTAL RIGHTS

State School

1. Can parents choose freely wherever they live every state school?

If so, how will the choice be made and who has priority in case there is not enough place for all?

Parents can choose freely whatever school they want for their children. Schools can employ priority rules in case there is not enough place for all. Some schools make use of a waiting list.



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2. How big are the co-determination and participation rights of parents?

Parents can participate in the representative advisory board ('medezeggenschapsraad') of a school. This board has certain legal rights. For example the principal has to ask the agreement of the board with the educational policy of the school. Parents can also participate in the parent council ('ouderraad') of a school. The parent council advises the representative advisory board and supports the organization of school activities.

Private Schools, Religious Schools, Free Schools

1. Can parents choose any school in private without financial and religious restriction?

Parents can choose any school they want for their children. See answer 1 above. In addition non-state schools can use certain restrictions with regard to the pupils they admit. For example, they may require parents to endorse the ideological foundation of the school.

2. How big are the co-determination and participation rights of parents?

See answer 2 above.

Homeschooling

1. Is homeschooling allowed?

The right to homeschooling is limited to those parents who can't find a school within a reasonable distance from their home which matches their religious or philosophical conviction.

If so, Do the parents need a teacher training?

No, the parents need no teacher training.

2. Do the children have to be taught according to the state curriculum?

As stated above, there exists no state curriculum in the Netherlands

3. Is "Free Learning" allowed?

Free Learning is allowed. There is no regulation as to how homeschooling should take place.

4. Do parents receive financial support from the state?

If so, how much?

Parents receive no extra support (above the regular child allowance) when they choose for homeschooling