



#alwaysbeyourself
#curiouslearning




entering the first year of secondary school

Van Maerlantlyceum | havo, atheneum, gymnasium



'At our school, you can truly be yourself'



You are about to enter the first year of secondary school, so you are looking for a high school that suits you. A school that takes into account who you are. A school where both your talents and specific needs are noticed, and you are challenged to become the absolute best version of yourself. You might have already guessed that Van Maerlantlyceum is exactly that type of school.

So... are you curious? And are you considering going to havo, atheneum, or gymnasium? Come to Van Maerlantlyceum! Together with 1,249 other students and our committed teachers you will embark on a journey of discovery: from the very first year up to your final exams. We are there to make sure you are well-prepared for your future education. You are going to take all the necessary steps of your educational career at our school by yourself. But remember that we are there for you and promise to motivate and support you all the way! Good education is important: it is the foundation to build your future educational career upon. A pleasant, safe secondary school time is of course an important starting point.

Be yourself, always!

Van Maerlantlyceum Eindhoven is a safe school with a pleasant atmosphere where bullying is considered simply unacceptable. At our school nobody is excluded, we respect each other. You can always be yourself here, regardless of who you are, what you believe in, where you come from and no matter how you identify yourself.

Would you like to know more?

We are more than willing to answer all your questions! Check out all introductory activities on our website.



explore & investigate

Are you curious by nature and do you like to discover things and enjoy conducting experiments? At our school you can do just that! We offer a wide range of subjects. In addition to the regular lessons, we offer extra-curricular courses like creative drawing, additional language courses (Cambridge English and Spanish), programming courses, robotics, and technology. You can also let your creativity run wild in our own so-called Makers' Lab.

Furthermore, from day one onwards you will learn how to conduct scientific research. Acquiring and developing research skills is part of the curriculum, just like Art & Technology and digital literacy. You are also invited to philosophise with your peers and actively participate in cooperative debates during the Van Abbe Debat. And there is more:

every schoolyear the Plato project offers our students the opportunity to investigate and explore a subject of their own choosing and personal interest for two hours a week during school time.

Of course, we also stimulate our students to engage in sports activities. Besides that, we highly value creativity. We warmly invite you to perform during our annual music night, become a dancer in our school ballet, or sing in our junior choir!

**"I like trying
new things. That is why
I decided to participate
in a debating contest this
year. Exciting!" Pupil,
3rd year atheneum**





learning inside and outside school

Van Maerlantlyceum is a Brainport school: we collaborate with both schools for higher education and universities and with well-known companies in the Eindhoven region in the fields of design, entrepreneurship, and technology. During physics lessons pupils visit ASML, and during Van Maerlantweek a variety of entrepreneurs, scientists, and artists lecture at our school. Moreover, several experts offer guest lessons and workshops about, amongst others, programming via Jet-Net!

If you excel in natural sciences you can participate in SensUs, a university competition at TU/e for bright high school students. Here, you delve into technology and experience the benefits of design-oriented education.

Van Maerlantlyceum is also an official Olympiade school. We earned this national certification because we have been annually participating in no fewer than seven Olympiade competitions for years. An Olympiade might just be the most enjoyable way to become proficient or excel in science subjects! Are you also participating?

We have a clear focus on the world around us, both nearby and further away: we aim to annually organise an internationally oriented week which involves international exchanges with schools abroad.

van maerlantlyceum

#altijdjezelfzijn #nieuwsgierigleren



"Everyone was allowed to choose a book themselves at the bookstore. As a result, we have brand new books in the media library."
Pupil, 4th year havo



laptops and books

At Van Maerlantlyceum, every student has a laptop. This allows you to study at your own pace and focus on your specific study needs as much as necessary: you can easily get ahead on a subject you already understand very well or practise some more in order to finally tackle that difficult mathematical problem. A computer is also handy when working on a project together.

Of course, we do not use laptops all the time. We do not want you to get square eyes! Your teacher will tell you when using your laptop is allowed and when not... We also use textbooks for learning.

Furthermore, each student has to bring a novel to school every day of the week as all Dutch lessons start off with ten minutes of reading. We consider reading very important at our school. We have many new books in our media library and organise reading weeks. During reading weeks, but also during regular classes, reading books is encouraged.

Studying at Van Maerlantlyceum thus involves laptops, textbooks and novels. Do not worry whether you can carry all of that as teachers will clearly indicate when bringing your books is necessary. Plus you will have a locker so you do not have to lug around a schoolbag that is way too heavy!

every student is different

Every student learns in a unique way. Together with you, we determine your individual learning path, tailored to your individual wishes and personal progress. Furthermore, together we keep track of what you can already do well and define what parts of the curriculum you need to pay extra attention to. Teachers adapt educational material to the specific needs of individual students. Making mistakes is allowed at our school, or better yet: making mistakes is necessary in order to make progress. You do not have to be perfect. At school, we help you to become the absolute best version of yourself. And as your school career progresses you get an increasingly decisive say in how to achieve just that!





learning together

At our school, we study together: both in class settings and in smaller groups, using either laptops or books. At our school, teachers educate their pupils, but it is also via cross-curricular projects and assignments that our students gain knowledge on specific subjects, inside and outside school.

"I really like being responsible for my own learning process, also because I was given a lot of responsibility at my primary school." Pupil, 2nd year gymnasium



fewer tests, better learning

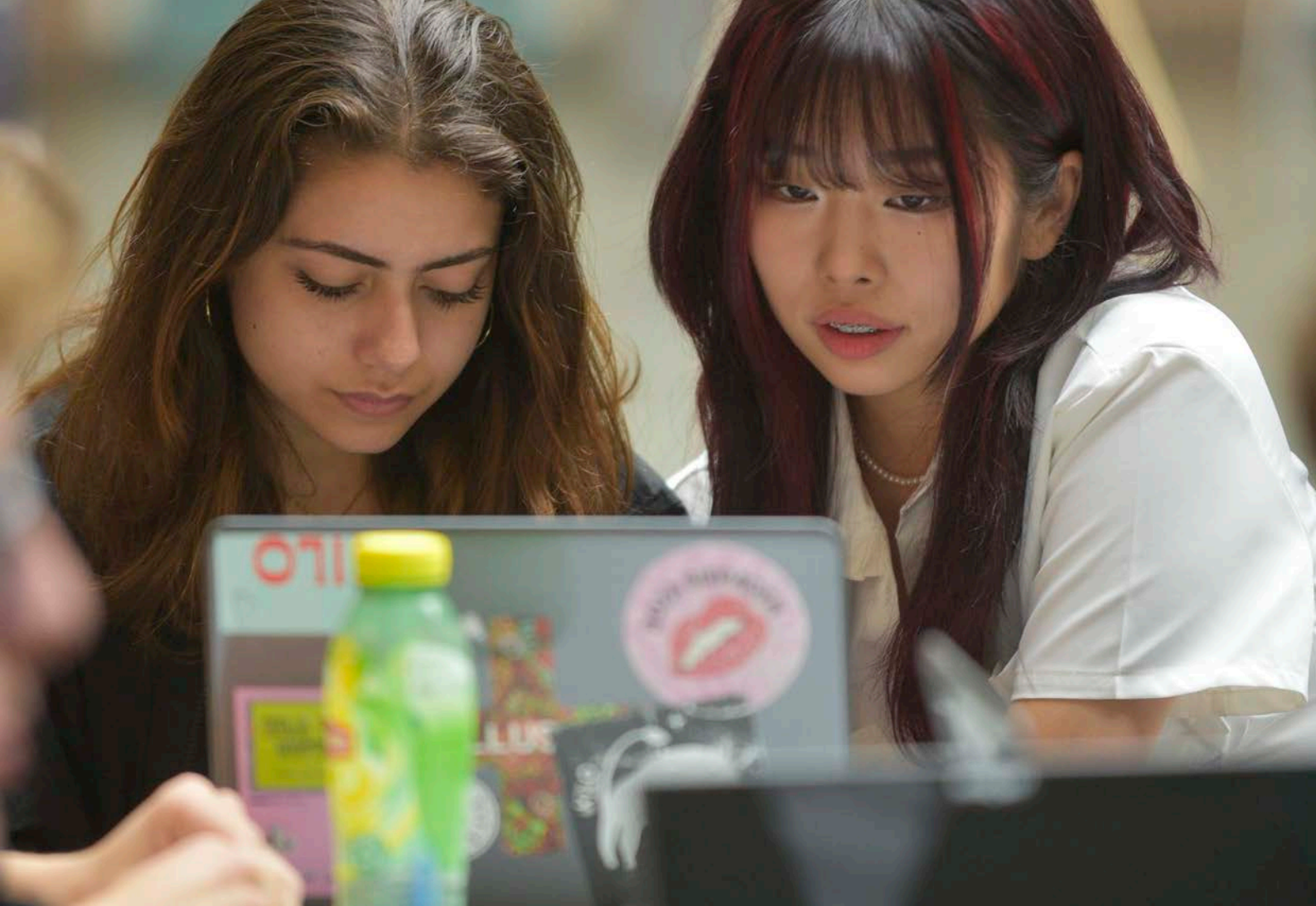
Does the thought of all those tests at secondary school already make you nervous? There is no need for that, because during the first year you regularly get so-called practice tests. These tests may not always look like traditional tests; your knowledge can also be assessed in other ways, known as formative assessment. This way you discover what you have already mastered and what you still need to work on. This also helps you avoid stressful surprises during exams. We do not have too many tests in a year; there is a limited number of tests per schoolyear - that way there is little test stress.

Furthermore, your classmates and you see your mentor one hour every week, during which you can discuss homework, class dynamics and potential problems with specific subjects. During so-called Van Maerlant hours you can choose which support or extra lessons you would like to attend. This way you are able to get extra help from teachers to master

difficult subjects. Van Maerlant hours give you the opportunity to deepen or broaden your knowledge. You can also choose to do other activities during Van Maerlant hours like writing for our press group, painting, participating in performance anxiety training, working on environmentally conscious projects for eco-school or joining the debate team.

On your Way to the Final Exams

Van Maerlantlyceum simply offers good education. Our success rates are high. In 2023, 94% passed the vwo (pre-university education) exams and 86% passed the havo (senior general secondary education) exams, and in 2022 the success rates were 90% for vwo and 92% for havo. Excellent tutoring contributes greatly to these results: every pupil is supported by a mentor, who coaches him or her on the journey towards the final exams.



Education Awards

Asking questions, designing, coming up with solutions, and conducting research. These are important values at Van Maerlantlyceum. And this pays off: our students often win prestigious awards for their research projects, such as the KNAW Education Award, SensUs Highschool project competition, Van Melsen Award, and OMO Profielwerkstukprijs, a prize for outstanding research papers.

tailored first year

**Being exactly at the right place:
that feels good.**

**In our first year classes we take care of that!
How we do this? By ensuring that you start
in the first year class that suits you best:
be that havo, atheneum or gymnasium.**

What is the difference?

first year havo

- You are taught at havo level, and tests are also at havo level.
- Lessons in first year havo begin with a short instruction after which you can work on your own (homework) assignments at your own pace.
- You can be admitted to first year havo with a suitable recommendation from your primary school.





first year atheneum

- Lessons and tests are at vwo level.
- After first year atheneum you can either continue your educational career in second year havo, second year atheneum or second year gymnasium, depending on your results and motivation in year 1.
- You can be admitted to first year atheneum if your primary school advises you to go to either first year havo/vwo or first year vwo.

first year gymnasium

- Lessons and tests are at vwo level.
- In addition to the main subjects, subjects such as robotics and classical language and culture are included in the curriculum in first year gymnasium. In comparison to first year havo and first year atheneum some subjects are taught in fewer lessons per week in first year gymnasium.
- Latin and ancient Greek lessons start in second year gymnasium.
- 20-80% learning: challenging curriculum and extra-curricular programs
- You can be admitted to first year gymnasium if your primary school advises you to go to first year vwo.





our pupils

We are proud of our havo pupils!

The social engagement in our havo program is significant. We work with a team of dedicated mentors who ensure that each havo pupil is seen. Mentor sessions focus heavily on group formation, social well-being, and career guidance. What am I good at? What do I still want to learn? What is the right choice for me?

During classes at havo, there is concise instruction, allowing for independent work on homework assignments afterwards. These assignments are as practical as possible.

At atheneum, pupils follow their own path.

The collective term for “atheneum” and “gymnasium” in Dutch is vwo (an abbreviation for voorbereidend wetenschappelijk onderwijs, which translates as ‘preparatory scientific education). At vwo (pre-university education), a lot of customisation is possible. If you seek additional challenges, you can work on a Plato project, participate in an Olympiade, or engage in the SensUs project. During extra study hours and Van Maerlant hours teachers give additional support if needed.



**At our gymnasium you experience the true
gymnasium feeling**

Do you enjoy history and mythical stories?
Is learning easy for you? Then our gymnasium
is probably the right fit for you.

Latin and Greek

In first year gymnasium you get to know all
about the gods of the ancient Greeks and
Romans during classical culture classes.
You also get a taste of the Latin and ancient
Greek language, so that you are well-prepared
for second year gymnasium.

And there's more!

During Dutch classes you learn how to voice
your opinion; during the Mytilene debate
your fellow pupils and you engage in a vivid
debate. During maths classes you learn how
to program, during Art & Technology classes
you create things that are myth-related
and moreover, you learn to calculate with
hieroglyphs you have created yourself! In the
third year you are introduced to a special kind
of geography: GeoFuture.



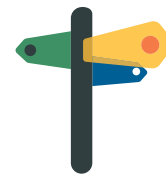
20-80learning gymnasium

At gymnasium, we put 20-80learning into
practice. This program makes education even
more challenging, valuable, and interesting.
80% of class time is dedicated to regular
lessons, and 20% is spent on extracurricular
projects that contribute to making education
less dull, more challenging by setting goals
and making individual choices.

20-80learning offers opportunities for
a personalised learning path, practical
education, differentiation, customisation,
and moreover: contributes to a proven better
transition to higher professional or academic
education.

**"I want to give you
a big compliment on how you
inform and involve us as parents.
As a parent, I feel that you are
open to communication between
the school, students, and parents.
Keep up the good work!"
An involved parent**





never alone, always supported

Learning (and living!) involves trial and error, so it is nice to have guidance when you need it. At Van Maerlantlyceum, your mentor plays a crucial role in this. Every school year, he or she conducts an orientation conversation with you and your parents. This way, you know what to expect and can discuss things that are important to you in advance.

Throughout the year, your mentor keeps an eye on your well-being, on class dynamics and on your school achievements. If additional guidance is necessary, your mentor will contact our support team, which includes student counsellors, an educational psychologist, coaches, and if necessary, authorities outside the school, like Community Health Service.

Furthermore, during the weekly mentor hour in the first year, the mentor teaches you all you need to know about good study habits

and helps you to acquire specific study skills, because learning also has to be learned.

NT2

NT2 stands for Nederlands als Tweede Taal, which translates as “Dutch as a second language.” If Dutch is not the only language you speak, because it is not your maternal language, because you have lived abroad for a while or because you have been raised bilingually you might experience difficulties in understanding, reading, writing, and speaking Dutch.

Our NT2 teacher can collaborate with you to enhance your Dutch language proficiency. Support may include assistance with expanding your vocabulary, improving your reading comprehension skills, applying grammar rules correctly or helping you to formulate better.

and the building?

The monumental main building at Jacob van Maerlantlaan is currently being renovated with respect for authentic details. We are ensuring better comfort and larger classrooms to make the building suitable for 21st-century education. Part of the old building has been demolished and replaced by a new construction. The plans include ample space for natural light, modern solutions, and sustainability.





In September 2024, we will start the school year in the renovated and expanded facility. Until then, we invite you to check the progress of the (re)construction at www.vanmaerlantlyceum.nl/vernieuwbouw.

If you are entering the first year in school year 2024-2025, we will welcome you directly at our familiar location near the city centre! You will find yourself in a school with a unique, warm atmosphere, situated in the middle of a beautiful park.

frequently asked questions

Below is a brief overview of the questions we often receive. If you want to know more, please contact us at info@vmle.nl or visit opendag.vanmaerlantlyceum.nl.

How many pupils are there in the school?

A total number of 1,249 pupils

How many children are there in a class?

In a class, there are a maximum of 30 students, usually fewer.

Is there always a spot in the first year, or is there a lottery?

For the first-year groups of school year 2024-2025, there is a chance of a lottery. The possibility of a lottery depends on the number of registrations.

How much homework do I get per day?

This depends on the number of subjects in your schedule on that day. In general, you spend about an hour and a half on your homework every day.

How heavy is my school bag?

It also varies each day. You have a laptop, textbooks, and a novel. Teachers tell you when you need specific books, so that you do not have to lug around a school bag that is way too heavy.

Are there lockers?

Yes, all students can use a locker at school.

How do I get to know my classmates?

Before the holidays we organise a meeting day for classmates-to-be so that you already get to know your classmates before school starts. At the beginning of the school year there is also a so-called contactdag, which is a school day without regular classes. Instead, there are all sorts of fun activities organised for your new classmates and you in order to get to know each other even better.

Do you also do sports?

Certainly, we have weekly lessons in physical education, indoors and outdoors on our sports field. In addition, we have a school ballet (modern and hip-hop) for you to participate in should you want to get some extra exercise.

Is there an anti-bullying policy?

Fortunately, there is hardly any bullying at our school. Everybody is accepted and free to express themselves as they wish. In case bullying does occur, there is a solid anti-bullying protocol. Two teachers have been appointed as confidants for students in need so that there is always somebody there for you to talk to.

Do you have a phone-policy?

Starting from early 2024, mobile phones and tablets are no longer allowed at our school. Students must either leave their phones at home or store them in their lockers at school.

Is there a focus on rock music during music lessons?

Yes, all types of music are covered during music lessons.

What is Plato?

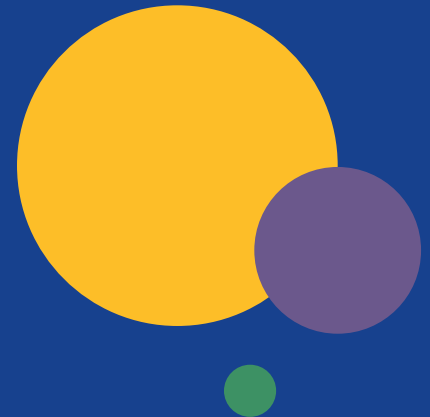
Plato stands for Pientere Leerlingen Aanzetten Tot Onderzoek (which can be translated as: encouraging bright students to conduct research).

At our school Plato pupils can spend two hours per week on a subject or research that interests them. They are allowed to 'skip' two lessons of your own choosing per week to spend on their Plato project/research. At the end of the school year, the outcome of all Plato projects and all research done is presented by the pupils involved.

What is NT2?

NT2 stands for Nederlands als Tweede Taal (which means: Dutch as a second language). If Dutch is not your primary language, our NT2 teacher can work with you to improve your Dutch language proficiency.

For more than 100 years, a well-known institution in Eindhoven



We are a school with over 100 years of teaching experience, and we leverage that expertise effectively. We are at the forefront of digital education, customization, and student support. At Van Maerlantlyceum you will not only acquire knowledge and develop your research skills, but we are also there to help you to become a social, broad-minded, and curious (global) citizen.

Van Maerlantlyceum Eindhoven offers you solid education as a foundation for the rest of your educational career. Making your time in secondary school as pleasant as possible is our guiding principle!

At Van Maerlantlyceum, learning is enjoyable!

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