



#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 or vwo? Come to Van Maerlantlyceum! Together with 1,249 other pupils 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 for your future educational career. 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. 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?

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 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 Abbedebat. And there is more: every school year 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 (modern or hip-hop), 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 schools for higher education and universities and with well-known companies in the Eindhoven region in the fields of design, entrepreneurship, and technology. For instance, during physics lessons, pupils might visit ASML. A variety of entrepreneurs, scientists, and artists lecture at our school. Moreover, several experts offer guest lessons and workshops about, among others, programming.

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.

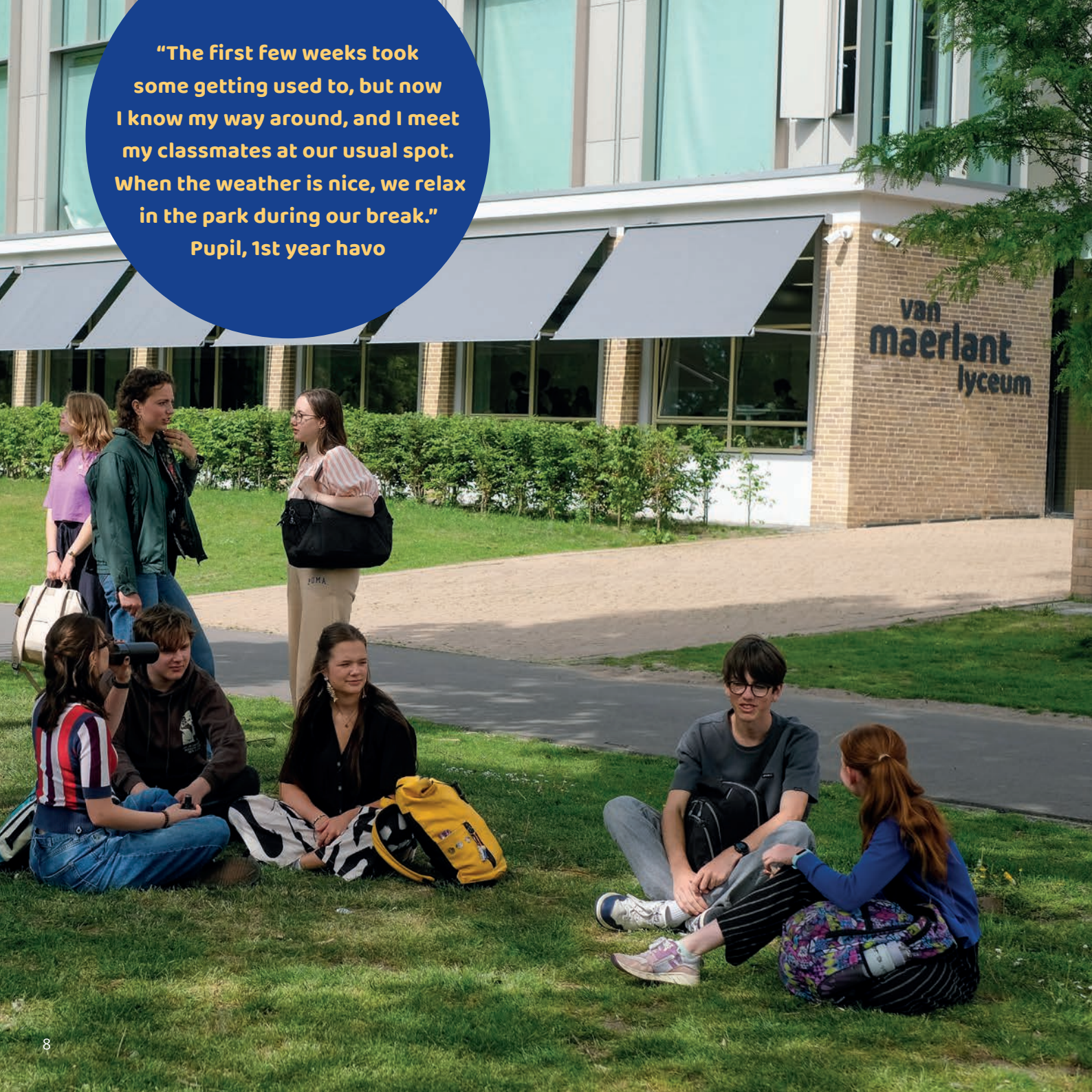
Havo students with a passion for hands-on activities are encouraged to join havoP starting in havo 4. Alongside their regular subjects, they will

take part in more practical, technology-focused lessons one day per week.

Van Maerlantlyceum is also an official Olympiade school. We earned this national certification because we participate annually in at least seven Olympiade competitions. 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, in the region based on our Brainport connections, and further away: we aim to annually organise a trip to a foreign country for seniors.





"The first few weeks took some getting used to, but now I know my way around, and I meet my classmates at our usual spot. When the weather is nice, we relax in the park during our break."
Pupil, 1st year havo

modern school

Our school building

Our school is welcoming and modern, located near the city centre and adjacent to the park. It features abundant greenery both inside and outside, impressive theatre facilities, and spacious practical classrooms. Furthermore, there are numerous nooks and seating areas available for individual or group work, creating an excellent learning environment for everyone.

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! The teacher will tell you when using your laptop is allowed and when not... We also use textbooks for learning and workbooks for exercises.

We consider reading very important at our school. We organise reading weeks for all of our languages. During reading weeks, but also during regular classes, reading books is encouraged. Dutch classes, for example, start with ten minutes reading.

"A laptop, textbooks, another textbook... Won't my bag get too heavy?" 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 pupil 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 important 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 of specific subjects, inside and outside school.

"It took a little while to get used to the homework, but now I can balance it well with my hobbies." 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 school year. There are three test weeks per school year. 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 the first half-year you even see your mentor twice a week.

During so-called Van Maerlant hours you can broaden or deepen your knowledge. This way you are able to get extra help from teachers to master difficult subjects. You can also choose to do other activities like joining our press group, painting, participating in a performance anxiety training, joining the debate team or the #altijdjezelfzijn-meeting (#alwaysbeyourself).

On your way to the final exams

Van Maerlantyceum simply offers good education. You get support from a mentor, who coaches you on the journey towards the final exams.

Succes rates	2025	2024	2023
havo	95%	94%	86%
vwo	85%	86%	94%





tailored first year

Being in exactly 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

- Lessons begin with a short instruction after which you can work on your own (homework) assignments at your own pace.
- After the first year of havo, you can advance to the second year of havo or, upon meeting the minimum requirements, to the second year of atheneum.
- You can be admitted to first year havo with a havo recommendation from your primary school.

first year havo/vwo

- Are you unsure whether havo or atheneum suits you better? Then you can start in our first year havo/atheneum.
- After the first year havo/vwo you can either continue your educational career in second year havo, second year atheneum or second year gymnasium.
- You can be admitted to first year havo/vwo if your primary school advises you to go to either first year havo/vwo or vwo.

first year gymnasium

- In addition to the main subjects, subjects such as Ancient Greek and Roman culture are included in the first year gymnasium curriculum.
- To make room in the timetable, you will receive fewer teaching hours per week for the main subjects.
- 20-80 learning: project-based and challenging learning.
- After the first year you can either continue in second year atheneum or second year gymnasium.
- You can be admitted to first year gymnasium if your primary school advises you to go to first year vwo.





our way of teaching

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 and social well-being. Furthermore, we want to find out what you are good at, what you like and what you would like to do after havo?

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

HavoP – growing through doing

At the Van Maerlantlyceum, you can choose **havoP technology** in the upper years: a practical exam subject within the Nature & Technology profile. In this subject, you will not only learn from books, but mainly by **doing**. You will work on real assignments from companies and universities of applied sciences in the Brainport

region, such as building a robot, designing a biobased product or creating your own arcade game cabinet. In havo 5, you will complete the subject with a final project that counts towards your diploma.

Although havoP only starts in the upper years, you will be introduced to it earlier. In the **Art & Technology** lessons from years 1 to 3, you will practise skills that will come in handy: collaborating, researching, designing and presenting. This way, you will be prepared step by step for this unique subject that will help you discover what your talents are.

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.

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 make education more engaging and challenging by setting goals and making individual choices.

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



And there's more!

In Dutch class, you not only learn to write and read well, but also how to debate.

During the famous Mytilene debate, you step into the shoes of the ancient Greeks. ►



In a re-enacted public assembly, you debate historical issues about war and punishment: should crimes be severely punished or is forgiveness the right solution?

Project Space Travel takes you on a journey through the universe with biology, geography and physics. You will discover how rockets work, what space travel does to astronauts, how you can grow food in space and what planets and other celestial bodies look like.

In research skills, you will learn to investigate, collaborate and think creatively. As a challenge, you will design your own escape room with mathematical puzzles and clever assignments.

With us, you will not only discover new subjects, but also new worlds – literally and figuratively.

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 the local Community Health Service.

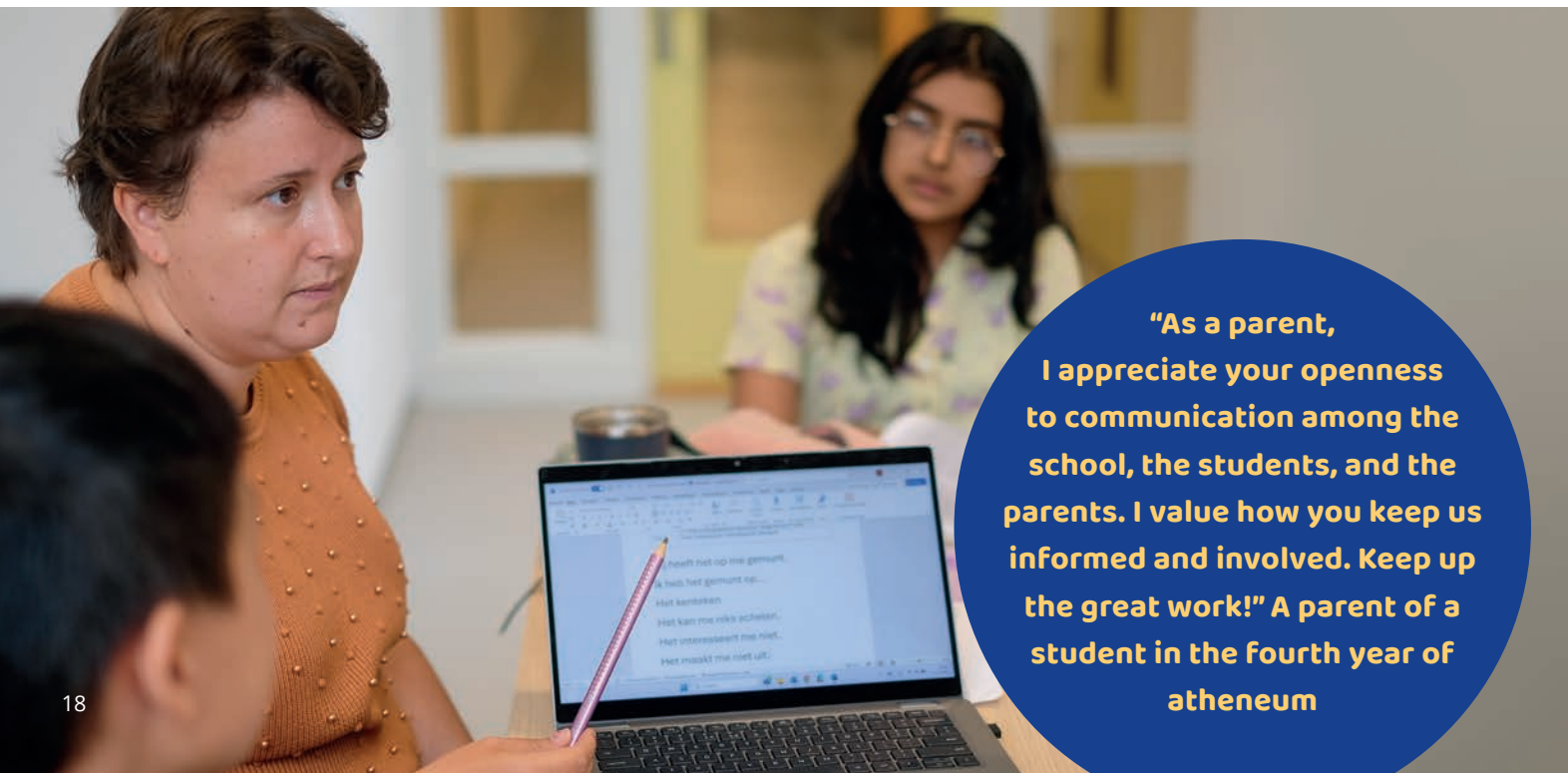
Furthermore, during the weekly mentor hour in the first year, the mentor teaches you all you need to know about good study habits and helps

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.



**“As a parent,
I appreciate your openness
to communication among the
school, the students, and the
parents. I value how you keep us
informed and involved. Keep up
the great work!” A parent of a
student in the fourth year of
atheneum**

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?

There are 1,249 pupils in total.

How many pupils 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?

Registration for the first year of secondary school for the 2026-2027 school year is done through a central system. If there are more registrations than places available, a notary will conduct a lottery. This will take place at a central time for all schools in our area.

Are there lockers?

Yes, all students can use a locker at school.

How much homework do I get per day?

This depends on your schedule. In general, you spend about 1.5 to 2 hours on your homework per 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.

What is a mentor?

A mentor is your regular teacher. He or she helps you get to know the school and class, but also helps you plan your homework, cope with the atmosphere in the class and support you in case you are struggling with anything.

What is 20-80learning?

20-80learning makes education even more challenging, valuable and interesting; 80% of your teaching time is spent on regular lessons and 20% of the time is spent on projects.

What is HavoP?

HavoP Technology is a practical exam subject within the Nature & Technology profile. You learn mainly by doing, thus working on real assignments from companies and universities of applied sciences.

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 and your mentor. At the beginning of the school year there will also be an introduction filled with activities so that you get to know each other 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. If necessary you can talk to a confidant for pupils.

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. If you can miss a few lessons, you may spend those hours on a subject or research project that interests you. At the end of the school year, you will present your project or research.



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, customisation, 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 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.

Our guiding principle is to make your time in secondary school as pleasant as possible!

At Van Maerlantlyceum, learning is enjoyable!



Van Maerlantlyceum

Jacob van Maerlantlaan 11

5615 JS Eindhoven

info@vmle.nl

040 251 3704

 vanmaerlantlyceum

 vanmaerlantlyceum_eindhoven

www.vanmaerlantlyceum.nl

