

Heerbeek International College (HIC)

In 2014, the Heerbeek College in Best launched a new educational concept: the Heerbeek International College (HIC). The International College focuses on developing so called '21st Century skills' that will enable students to function effectively in our high-tech, rapidly changing global society. The curriculum of the Heerbeek International College is built on four pillars:

1. International awareness
2. Science
3. Design
4. Entrepreneurial spirit

These four pillars will prepare students for a professional future in the Brainport Region and for international studies and careers. Our innovative educational concept combines the strengths of other established concepts such as technasium, bilingual education and entreprenasium.

At the International College six subjects are taught in English by Cambridge certified teachers: Biology, geography, global issues, English, science and physical education. During project weeks and field trips, students will be immersed in the world of science, design and business. Visits to Philips, ASML and CERN in Switzerland, and the Science Museum in London are part of the educational programme. Yearly study trips to Anglo-Saxon countries and an internationally oriented internship in the pre-exam class require a flexible and open mindset. These activities are aimed at developing cultural awareness. They build self-confidence and perseverance and teach students how to navigate unknown territory and situations outside their comfort zone.

Students will practise academic essay writing and composing scientific lab reports to prepare them for the English curricula of universities and other institutions of higher education. The Cambridge Certificate in English provides access to universities and job opportunities worldwide. Other internationally acclaimed certificates (DELFI, Goethe, DELE) are optional additions for students.

Education at the International College is offered at two levels: Havo and vwo. The academic level of the programme is equivalent to the Dutch programme. However, subject content and English language learning are integrated for six subjects and mastering both will initially require more effort from the students. Students must also be motivated to work collaboratively on projects that concern real life problems.

The costs of this international curriculum (extra lessons in English, interactive English plays, excursions, study trips abroad), are partly paid by an additional yearly fee of 498€ for students in this programme.

To sum up: the International College is an opportunity for students who want to go the extra mile to explore and experience education beyond the classroom walls and to be better prepared for studies and careers in the 21st century. We focus on developing an open and global mindset and an entrepreneurial spirit:

“Well prepared for the future and a great time”.