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BILINGUAL EDUCATION: A CHALLENGE FOR YOU?

Do you recognise yourself in this profile?

BILINGUAL HAVO or VWO

You

- Love a challenge
- Have a curious and inquisitive nature
- Are interested in the world around you
- Are open to the cultures and ideas of people from all across the world
- Would like to learn more about this
- Would like to learn English very well
- Have some talent for languages, social and communicative skills, or would very much like to develop and cultivate such talents
- Are not afraid to make mistakes, and to learn from them
- Would like to be well prepared for the world after school – you would like to be able to call yourself a global citizen
- Are prepared to go just that little extra mile to reach this ...
- ... and to possibly take some risks along the way!



The world around us is growing increasingly smaller. Globalisation is leading to more and more contact with people from different countries and parts of the world. In your later life, at college or at your work place, you will also gain many international contacts, and often be using English to communicate. Bilingual education at Brokledede provides you with a strong foundation in such international and intercultural communication! By taking this pathway, you are preparing yourself for global citizenship. You will grow more aware of yourself and the people around you, and learn to approach global issues from several (cultural) perspectives.

A EUROPEAN MINDSET

Bilingual education has been stimulated by the European Union and the Dutch government for several years now. Bilingual education at Brokledede meets the necessary standards and has been approved by Nuffic, the Dutch organisation for internationalisation in education, to which our school is connected as well.

ENGLISH IN THE CLASSROOM

During your bilingual education programme, you will start with five hours of English classes a week, and will follow approximately half of your subjects in English. During these classes, you will be speaking and writing in English, and your homework and tests will be in English as well. That may seem difficult, but you will get used to it before you know it!

EXTRA BAGGAGE

Bilingual education consists of much more than just following lessons in English. You will find out more about the perspectives of people from different parts of the world, and their views on a variety of cultural and social topics. There have been exchange projects with schools in Germany, Denmark, India and Uganda. Most students look back on these exchanges as

special experiences, which have a positive effect on their world view, independence and responsibility. Bilingual education, therefore, provides you with extra baggage, which will be very useful for your future.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION: A MATCH?

To decide whether or not bilingual education is a good match for you, we will look at the advice you were given at primary school. In addition, you will take part in a 'matching': a test in Dutch to see how well your comprehensive reading skills are developed, and a motivational interview, to help you be certain that you are making the right decision.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Bilingual education comes with some extra costs, for example to fund international projects and educate our teachers. Brokledede therefore asks an additional parental contribution for this programme. Parents who are unable to meet this additional fee can apply to a [financial arrangement](#).

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION

At the end of year 3, all students will take the English language Anglia exam at level B2 or C1 of the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for language levels). If you continue with bilingual education in the upper grades, you will receive your International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma for the subject English. Havo will take the IB English Language B programme, and vwo the IB Language and Literature A programme. These internationally acknowledged certificates provide you with more options for international education. In addition, all students will receive their bilingual education certificates: the Junior Certificate at the end of year 3, and the Senior Certificate at the end year 5 havo or year 6 vwo.

Like to know more? Read our FAQ, or explore the website of [Nuffic](#), the Dutch organisation for internationalisation in education to which our school is connected.

Frequently Asked Questions

I am dyslexic. Now what?

Students with dyslexia are also very welcome in our bilingual programme. Your motivation and enthusiasm is most important to us! We do ask you to consider carefully: you will be spending extra time working on and with (foreign) languages, and for some this may be asking just a little too much, despite your hard work.

I didn't really have much English at primary school. Should I have some basic command of the language already?

Not at all, students with all different levels enter our bilingual programme. Everyone is welcome. Some students have to work just a little bit harder than others during the first few weeks, but students usually soon reach similar levels of command of the language.

I am looking for education for gifted students. Is this where I should be?

Bilingual education is meant for all students who can find themselves in the profile mentioned above. It is therefore not a replacement for special education for gifted students. What you learn, how you develop and to what extent you are open to the world around you during your

education is much more important than what you have to offer in advance. If you have a vwo+ advice, you are a good fit for both our vwo as well as our bilingual vwo programme. Need a challenge? We could look into customized work within the school.

If I do so much in English, will I still be learning Dutch?

Very much so! The more you work with languages, the more your linguistic skills in general are being developed. Not reassured? The Nuffic, the organisation for international education to which our school is connected, ensures that bilingual students at each school do not score lower on average on their Dutch exams than students in regular education do. What's more, research shows that bilingual students on average score higher on their Dutch exam than others!

More Information

For students and their parents:

Looking for more answers about bilingual education (tto) in general? Look here:

<https://www.ikkiestto.nl/veelgestelde-vragen/>.

For parents:

Would you like to find out more about Nuffic as an organisation? Go here:

<https://www.nuffic.nl/onderwerpen/over-ons/wie-zijn-wij>

Would you like to read more about research into bilingual education, and the effects of this form of education? Go here: <https://www.nuffic.nl/onderwerpen/tweetalig-onderwijs/onderzoek-naar-tweetalig-onderwijs>