



# Dutch Best Practice OVERVIEW Hugo de Groot School Behave yourself

### Introduction



## Life expectancy

Life expectancy in Rotterdam's poverty-stricken neighborhoods is twenty years lower than average. If it is unsafe for a child at home, it makes little difference how things go at school. The teachers who roll up their sleeves make all the difference. "If you're going to get out of your bed, you might as well work hard all day."

### Don't do it!

When Van 't Zelfde shared his interest in the vacancy of a school director in a povertystricken Rotterdam neighborhood? Befriended directors had all the same advice: Don't do it! The school is known to be weak, the building is in a very bad state and stabbings regularly take place. Van ;'t Zelfde ignores the advice. He finds a school with distraught teachers, a budget deficit, very poor cito scores and children with a 'risk indication'. He also saw the many faces of poverty: "Poverty has bruises. Poverty has a smell. Poverty is hungry. I wanted to know the name and story of each child."

In 2009 Eric van 't Zelfde became director of one of the worst schools in Rotterdam. A school with only 34 new student registrations, dramatic exam results, tired teachers and crime. Van 't Zelfde tackled the problems off the beaten track. No less than 56 teachers left, 34 of whom in his first year as director. He introduced the ingenious rule of conduct 'you behave yourself', which is brilliant in its simplicity. He expelled a number of students against the law and had to answer to the judge. After several years, his school began to score at or above the national average. From the worst school in the Netherlands to one of the best schools in the **Netherlands** in five years.

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# **Hugo de Groot School**

Hugo de Groot school is located in the disadvantaged district of Charlois and was in a moribund existence.

#### IQ, EQ and ACCU

38

Director Van "t Zelfde implemented his new policy with his teachers at the Hugo de Groot school in Rotterdam: "Taking this population of students to the next level requires extra hours of instruction and teachers with infinite 'IQ, EQ and Accu' who neglect their personal lives by working countless overtime hours. And those kinds of wonder people are almost impossible to find", sats Van 't Zelfde



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Success rateFailed Mavo exams

59 41

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### Hugo de Groot School Rotterdam

Vision The ultimate goal is to merge with a primary school and start a daycare center to provide education from toddler to young adult.

#### **Super School**

Eric van 't Zelfde thought otherwise. In 2009, he was deemed eligible for appointment as director of one of the weakest schools in Rotterdam. In the pass rate of 38% for havo and 59% for vwo and average grades with a maximum (!) of 6.4 (Mathematics B, havo)

Van 't Zelfde did not see a problem, but a challenge.

Together with a strong team of motivated, capable teachers and an educational staff, he put his shoulder to the wheel to achieve a success rate of 100% (!) for the second year in a row at all training levels five years later, in the academic year 2014 - 2015. to have. Lowest grade?

Lowest grade? A 5.87. (Dutch, pre-university education).

Highest grade? An 8.98 (mathematics A, vwo).



2009

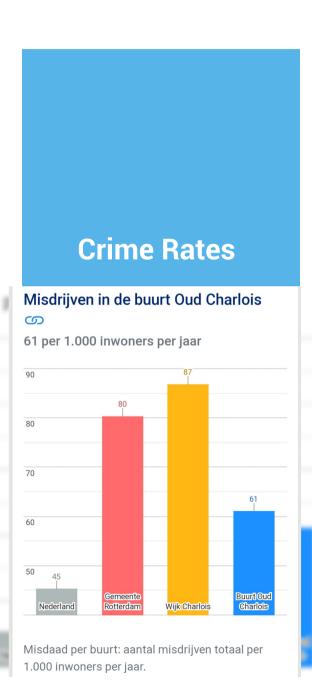


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# Hugo de Groot SuperSchool



### Charlois

Hugo de Groot school is located in a very wellknown neighbourhood: Charlois, with an very low aerage income and high crime rates...

