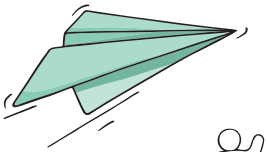
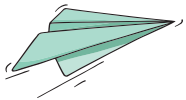
The TransitionRouteMap







* 11 January to 29 January 2027
VSO-3 application
(Tyltyl School until 19 February)

6 25 January to 12 February 2027
Transition Test

7 B: 8 April 2027
Central lottery



Start secondary school



7 A: 17 to 31 March 2027
Application period
For regular and VSO-4 schools

1 By July 2026
Preliminary advice

2 September 2026
Register for
Zorgleerling in Beeld

3 October to December 2026
Zorgleerling in Beeld
assessment

5 January to March 2027
Advice meeting with the teacher.
You receive:
- the final school advice;
- a unique code and Preference List;
OR
- a parent code to apply through the OT Parent Portal.



4 October 2026 to February 2027
Visit open days



Also visit the parents' page of The Transition Route!

KOERS VO

Every year, it is a big adventure. This is true for you as a parent or guardian, for your child and for everyone involved in the move from primary school to secondary school.

It is therefore important that you know how the transition is organised in Rotterdam and the surrounding area and what is expected from you during this period.

The Transition Route gives you clear information. It explains the steps for finding a secondary school that fits your child's wishes and talents.

The Transition Route Map shows every step in the move to secondary school. You can also find the map on the parents' page of The Transition Route. This guide gives more information about the map. The primary school will also give you a postcard with all the steps. If you still have questions after reading this guide, your child's teacher will be happy to help you.

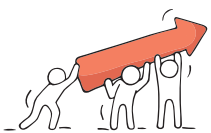
This map also explains how to apply to a VSO-3 or VSO-4 school.[1] The Transition Route does not apply to VSO-1 and VSO-2 schools. These schools explain how to apply on their own websites.



[1] *rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/passend-onderwijs/speciaal-onderwijs*

1. Preliminary advice By July 2026

At the end of Year 7, the teacher gives your child preliminary school advice. This is not the final advice. You can use it to start looking for a suitable secondary school.



You can find information about secondary education and schools near you on koersvo.schoolprofielen.nl, scholenopdekaart.nl and the websites of secondary schools. The Brugklas010 website has information about school fairs in 12 areas.

Do you want to apply to a school with a selection test or audition? First check the school website. The website tells you when the selection training or audition takes place and whether your child must join. In the Koers VO region, this applies to Thorbecke Talentschool for top-level sport and dance, and Codarts Lyceum for music and dance. Thorbecke Talentschool also has classes without a selection test.

2. Register for Zorgleerling in Beeld September 2026

Practical education or a VMBO school with extra learning support (LWOO) may suit your child. Your child can then take part in the Zorgleerling in Beeld (ZIB) assessment. The teacher will explain this to you and ask for your permission. Some primary schools do the assessment themselves. In that case, your child does not need to take part in ZIB. The primary school will tell you what applies to your child.

3. Zorgleerling in Beeld assessment October to December 2026

Students who go to regular practical education or need LWOO support at a VMBO school usually need an intelligence test. The primary school or a research agency can give this test. Sometimes the school also needs more information about your child's social and emotional development. Your child may take another test for this. The test takes place at the primary school.

4. Visit open days
October 2026 to February 2027

Secondary schools organise open days and information activities from October to February. Visit them with your child. You can get to know the school and ask questions. The secondary school websites explain when these activities take place.

Does your child need support? Do you want to talk about this with the secondary school? Make a separate appointment with the school's support coordinator. Do this as soon as possible. The school needs time to plan the appointment.





5. Advice meeting with the teacher January to March 2027

Before 25 March, you will have one or more meetings with your child's teacher. The teacher tells you about the preliminary and final school advice. The teacher also discusses the educational report with you. The primary school sends this report to the secondary school.

If your child is going to a regular secondary school, the primary school may give you an orientation form in January. The form lists schools that match the preliminary school advice. You can use the list when you visit open days and other activities. The form is for your own use.

After the results of the Dutch 'Doorstroomtoets' (Transition Test), you receive the final school advice. The primary school adds this to the educational report. You can also ask the school to add your own opinion to the file.

The teacher will give you forms to apply to a secondary school. You may receive:

- The Advice Form with a unique code and a Preference List of secondary schools in the region that match your child's final school advice.

  The primary school asks if you want emails from Onderwijs Transparant about the application. For example, you can receive an email about the Preference List or the lottery result.

OR

- A sheet with a parent code. You can use this code to apply through the OT Parent Portal. You also receive two documents that explain how the portal works. The primary school tells you if you can use the Parent Portal. You can only use it for regular VMBO, HAVO and VWO schools.

  In the Parent Portal, you can view your child's educational report. You can add your opinion and complete the Preference List. You can also follow the application and see the lottery result.



The Transition Route only applies to schools in the Koers VO region.[2] Visit deoverstaproute.nl for a list. If you choose a school outside this region, check the school website carefully. The application dates may be different.

[2] *Albrandswaard, Barendrecht, Capelle aan den IJssel, Krimpen aan den IJssel, Lekkerkerk, Lansingerland, Nieuwerkerk aan den IJssel, Ridderkerk, Rotterdam.*

* VSO-3 application
11 January to 29 January 2027

Is your child going to a VSO-3 school? You can apply from 11 January to 29 January. For the Tyltyl School, you can apply until Friday 19 February, before the spring holiday.

The teacher gives you an Advice Form with a unique code and a VSO-3 Preference List. Give these forms to your first-choice school when you apply. For VSO-3 ZML schools, it is best to list at least three schools. Some schools may fill up quickly.

Your first-choice VSO-3 school enters the Preference List in Onderwijs Transparant. Sometimes the school also asks you to fill in an application form.

Apply on time: no later than 29 January, or 19 February for the Tyltyl School. If you apply too late, your child may not get a place at the first-choice school.

VSO-3 schools do not take part in the central lottery. If there are more students than places, a school may use priority rules. You can read about these rules on the parents' page of The Transition Route and on the school website.

6. Transition Test
25 January to 12 February 2027

The Transition Test is taken during this period.
The primary school will tell you when your child will take the test.



7A. The application period (for regular and VSO-4 schools[3]) 17 to 31 March 2027



All children who apply during this period have the same chance of getting a place. It does not matter if you apply at the start or at the end of the period. You must apply by 31 March.
It is best to list at least three schools in case a school needs a lottery.

Did the primary school give you an Advice Form with a unique code and a Preference List?
During the application period, go to your first-choice secondary school. Give the Advice Form, code and completed Preference List only to this school.[4]
Your first-choice school enters the Preference List in Onderwijs Transparant. Sometimes the school also asks you to fill in an application form. It is important to apply during this period, no later than 31 March. If you do not do this, there is a risk that your child cannot attend the school that is your first choice.

Did the primary school give you a parent code for the OT Parent Portal?
Complete the Preference List and the other information in the portal by 31 March.[5] The secondary school does not need the unique code.
Please note: always check the website of your first-choice school. The school may need more information. For example, you may need to have a meeting at the school during the application period.

[3] Some students can apply to VSO-4 schools earlier, for example when moving internally from SO to VSO. If this applies, the primary school will tell you. It will also be stated on the VSO school websites. The final day of the application period remains 31 March 2027.
[4] Do you also want to apply to a school outside the Koers VO region? If so, submit the Advice Form with the unique code to that school as well. The code can be entered once in each Onderwijs Transparant region. Check the website of the school outside the region for the application period and how to state any other preferences.
[5] Do you also want to apply to a school outside the Koers VO region? You can use the Parent Portal to apply in different regions. Check the website of the school outside the region for its application period.

7B. Central lottery 8 April 2027

After the application period, the secondary school will contact you as soon as possible. The school may tell you that your child has a place. Some schools need a lottery because too many children applied. A school may need more time if your child needs extra support. You will always receive a message.
Most children know before the May holiday which school they can attend and which class they will join.

Not selected in the lottery

If a lottery is needed, the secondary school will tell you. In February 2027, the parents' page of The Transition Route will explain the lottery and how you will receive the result.

Was your child not selected in the lottery? Was the application sent to another school on the Preference List? Go to that school to finish the application. The school that can work on your child's file will also contact you.

From the end of April, the parents' page of The Transition Route will show a new list every week. The list shows schools and classes that still have places.

