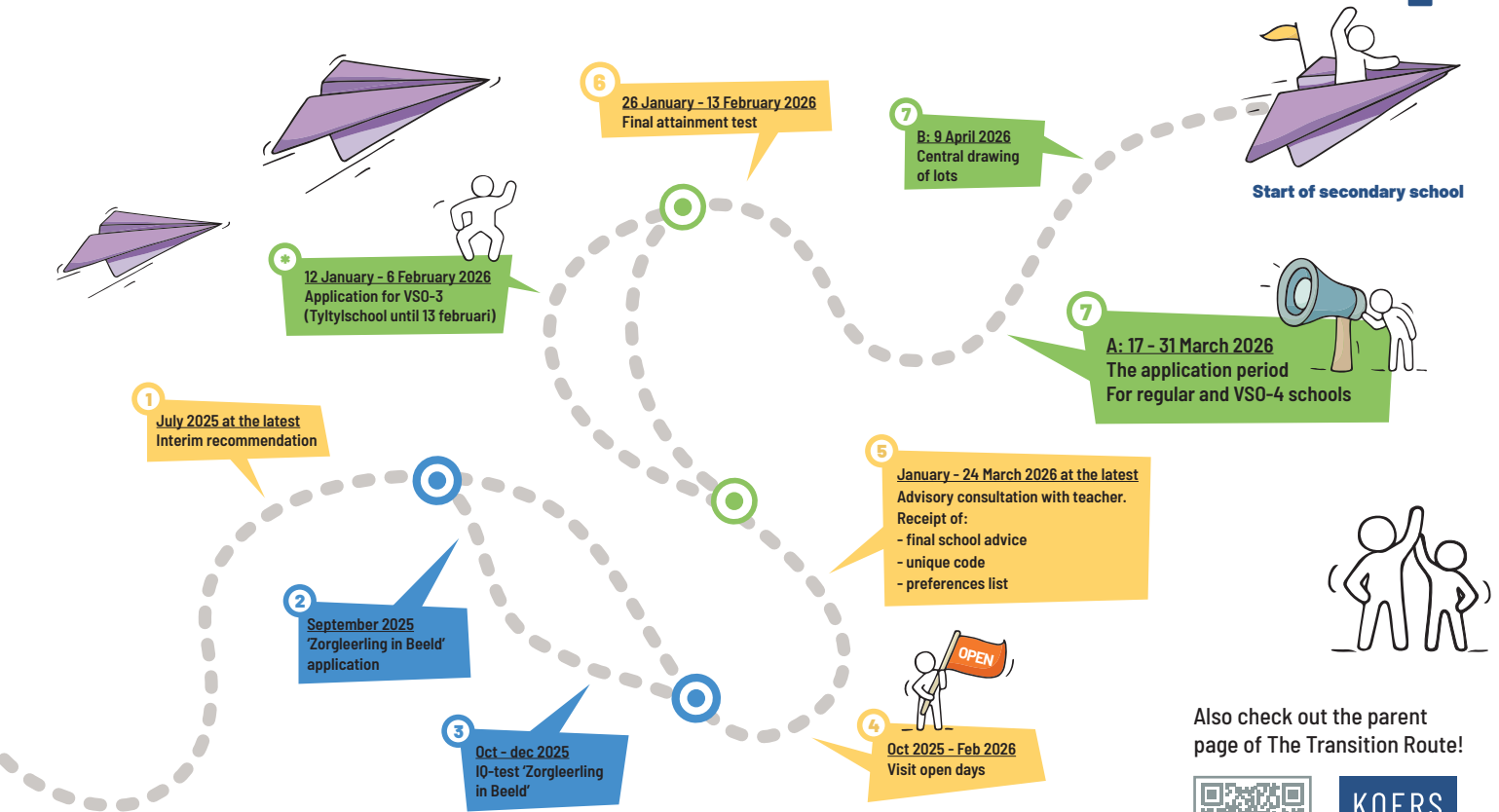


The TransitionRouteMap



Also check out the parent
page of The Transition Route!



KOERS

VO

The transition from primary school to secondary school is an exciting time. For you as a parent or guardian, for your child and for everyone involved in the transition from primary school to secondary school. It is therefore important that you know how the transition is arranged in and around Rotterdam and what is expected of you during this period.

The aim of The Transition Route Map is to give you clarity. Clarity about the steps to take to find a secondary school that best suits the interests and talents of your son or daughter.

The Transition Route Map gives you a step-by-step overview of the transition to secondary school. This clarification provides more information about that map. You will also receive a postcard from the primary school listing all the steps.

If you have any questions after reading this, your child's teacher will be happy to help you further.

More information can be found on [the parents' page of The Transition Route](#).

This Transition Route Map also lists the most important steps for applying to a VSO-3 or VSO-4 school.¹ The Transition Route does not apply to VSO-1 and VSO-2 schools; the application procedures for these schools can be found on their websites.



¹ government.nl/topics/appropriate-education/approval-for-special-education-for-your-child



1. Interim recommendation July 2025 at the latest

At the end of group 7, your child's teacher will give you an interim recommendation for your child. This is therefore not the final (binding) recommendation. Once you have received the interim school recommendation, you can use it to start searching for a suitable secondary school.

On the koersvo.schoolorprofielen.nl, scholenopdekaart.nl websites and, of course, on the websites of the secondary schools, you will find a lot of information about secondary education and the schools in your area.

Would you like to apply for a place for your child at a secondary school that has a selection round or an audition for admission? Then the first thing to do is check the website to see when the school is holding a selection training session or audition that your child will need to take part in. In the Koers VO region, these are the Thorbecke Talentschool (elite sports and dance) and the Codarts Lyceum (music and dance). At the Thorbecke Talentschool, you can also apply for classes for your child that do not require any selection.

2. Zorgleerling in Beeld Application (Special Needs Applications) September 2025

Perhaps your child is best off with vocational training or a VMBO school (preparatory vocational secondary education) that offers remedial education (LW00). In that case, your child can take the IQ-test 'Zorgleerling in Beeld' (ZIB). The teacher will discuss with you what this means and will ask for your permission. Some primary schools administer the test themselves; in that case, your child does not have to take part in the ZIB testing. The primary school will let you know what applies to your child.

3. Zorgleerling in Beeld Test October – December 2025

Most children who participate in the ZIB will need to take an intelligence test. This is done under the supervision of a testing agency. You will receive an invitation for this. The teacher at the primary school assesses the social skills of your child. It is possible that your child may also be tested on these. This is just done at the primary school.

4. Visit the open days October 2025 – February 2026

Secondary schools organise open days and other information events from November to February. Visit the schools together with your child. You will get to know the school better and you can ask any questions you may have. The websites of the secondary schools will provide information on when these events are held.

Does your child need help and would you like to discuss this with the secondary school? Then make a separate appointment with the school's support coordinator. Do this as soon as possible. The secondary school has to arrange this.



5. Advisory consultation with the teacher January – March 2026

You will have one or more meetings with your child's teacher before 25 March.

The teacher will tell you what the interim and final school recommendation is for your child and go through the pedagogical report with you, which they will pass on to the secondary school.

If your child is going to transfer to a regular secondary school, you may receive an orientation form from the primary school in January. This contains a list of secondary schools that match the interim school recommendation. This list can be used for visiting open days etc., and is for your own personal use.

After the results of the Final attainment test are known, you will receive the final binding school recommendation. The primary school will note this in the pedagogical report. If you wish, you can have your own views added to the file.

The teacher will give you a Recommendation Form with a unique code and a Preference List of secondary schools in the region that match the final recommendation from your child's school. You will need the Preference List and the Recommendation Form with the unique code when you apply to a secondary school. **The primary school will ask if you would like to receive emails from Onderwijs Transparant regarding the secondary school application process, for instance, about the Preference List submitted or the results of the school lottery draw.**





The Transition Route only applies to schools in the region of Koers VO². Check out the deoverstaproute.nl for an overview of schools. If your school of choice is located outside the region and is not part of The Transition Route, please check their website to find out about the application period.

*** Application for VSO-3 12 January – 6 February 2026**

Will your child be going to a VSO-3 school? Then the application period is from 12 January to 6 March. Applications to the Tyltyschool can be made until the Friday before the spring break, 13 February. You will receive the Recommendation Form with a unique code and the VSO-3 Preference List from the teacher. You will have to submit these forms when applying to the school of your first choice.

When applying to VSO-3 ZML schools, it is wise to fill in at least 3 preferences, in case some VSO-3 ZML schools fill up quickly.

The VSO-3 school of your first choice will add the Preference List to Onderwijs Transparant. Sometimes a school may ask you to fill in an application form as well. It is important that you register your child's application in this period – so, before 6 February! (Note: For the Tyltyschool, 13 February) If you do not do this, there is a risk that your child cannot be enrolled at the school of your first choice. This is particularly the case with VSO-3 ZML schools.

The VSO-3 schools do not participate in the central drawing of lots system. If more pupils apply than there are places available, the school may use a system of prioritisation. Information on this can be found on [the parents' page of The Transition Route](#) and on the website of the VSO-3 school.

6. Final attainment test 26 January – 13 February 2026

It is during this period that the Final attainment test is taken. You will be notified by the primary school when this will take place for your child.

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

7A. The application period (for regular and VSO-4 schools³) 17 - 31 March 2026

All children who register during the regular application period have an equal chance of being admitted. This means that it makes no difference whether you register your child at the beginning or at the end of this period. Just make sure you do it by 31 March at the latest!



During the application period, you will get to visit the secondary school that is your first choice. You only need to submit the unique code and the filled-in Preference List to that school.⁴ It is advisable to fill in at least three preferences, in case the school has to draw lots. The VSO-3 school of your first choice will add the Preference List to Onderwijs Transparant. Sometimes a school may ask you to fill in an application form as well. It is important that you register your child's application in this period, so no later than 31 March! If you do not do this, there is a risk that your child cannot be enrolled at the school of your first choice.



7B. School lottery 9 April 2026

After the application period, the secondary school will get in touch with you as soon as possible. They might notify you that your child has been placed. Some schools have to draw lots on account of too many applications. And sometimes the school needs more time to make a decision, for example because your child needs extra support. In all cases, the school will always contact you. Most children know before the May holidays which school they have been admitted to and in which class they have been placed.

Selected in the draw

If lots have to be drawn, the secondary school will let you know. In February 2026, details of how the draw will take place and how you will be notified will be posted on the parent's page of The Transition Route. Has your child been selected? Then you will need to visit this school to complete the enrolment process there. The secondary school that is handling your child's file will also be in touch with you. From the end of April, you will find weekly updated lists of schools and classes where places are still available on the parents' page of The Transition Route.

³ Some pupils may be enrolled earlier at VSO-4 schools (e.g. in the case of internal so-vso transfers). If this is the case, you will hear this from the primary school; it will then also be posted on the websites of the VSO schools. The last day of the application period is still 31 March 2026.

⁴ Would you (also) like to let your child apply for a school outside of the Koers VO region? Then you should (also) submit the Recommendation Form with the unique code to that school as well. This code can only be entered once in each region of Onderwijs Transparant. Please consult the website of the school outside the region for information on their application period and how to apply.