



Children's Parliament

School:

Basisschool Hendrik Conscience
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Global Competence dimension:

- Examine issues of local, global and cultural significance
- Understand and appreciate the perspectives and world views of others
- Engage in open, appropriate and effective interactions across cultures
- Take action for collective well-being and sustainable development

Subject:



21st century Skills:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Critical thinking	<input type="checkbox"/>	Creativity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Collaboration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Communication
<input type="checkbox"/>	Information literacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Media literacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology literacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Flexibility
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Leadership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Initiative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Productivity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social skills

Target groups:

Primary education Secondary education Other: (specify)

Age group: 6-12 years

School context:

Basisschool Hendrik Conscience is a GO! School and has as slogan: “an inquisitive look to the future”. We try to stimulate our pupils to keep on evolving and developing by always having an open mind towards change and innovation. We strongly believe in “lifelong learning” and fostering an inquisitive mind. That is why we try to integrate the key 21st century skills in our classes.

Description:

The children’s parliament comes together every 3 months. Every class has one democratically elected representative in the parliament. This “parliamentarian” is present at all the meetings for one year and he/she is also the contact person for other pupils of the class if they have ideas, suggestions, initiatives. The Parliament sessions are guided by one teacher and the school principal. After every session the parliamentarian goes back to his/her class and reports what has been discussed at the session and makes sure the assignments, tasks that were discussed are done before the next meeting.

Learning Outcomes:

The ‘parliamentarians’ learn many valuable communication skills, listening to each other, summarizing and expressing to others, ...
Young learners not just learn about democracy, they really **experience** what it means. Pupils learn to take initiative and see that they can have a voice in the way the school is run, that they can take initiative to work on the well-being of all pupils

Time Schedule:

Every three months a meeting is organized, this takes up one to two hours and takes place in a classroom.

Activities:

At the beginning of every schoolyear the election of the parliamentarian brings up the topic of democracy. Depending on the grade the students are in they dive deeper into the topic and learn about democracy in their city, our country and the world. Every three months a meeting is organized. A report is made, distributed in the classes and published on the school website.

Impact:

In addition to the improvements introduced at school, the greatest impact is seen on the wellbeing of the pupils. The students know that they can turn to a classmate if they encounter a problem. They learn that they have a say in the school and because the project is steered by fellow students they are highly committed to the project.

Testimonial of Linne:

This year I won the elections for the children's Parliament in my class. For me it is a big reasonability. I ask the children in my class what they want to change in our school. Then I go to the meeting. The director and the other parliamentarians really learn to listen to each other. We try to find solutions for the concens. One topic is on the agenda every time. It is stop bullying. I believe it is very important to keep working on this.