

New in the Netherlands!

I need to get to know a new country, make new friends, learn a new language ...

Every year, children come to primary schools in Amsterdam who lived the first years of their lives in another country. Some of them even go to school for the very first time in their life. They have to learn a lot in a short amount of time. About their new country, with a different culture, different behaviour, a different language.

To help these children feel at home as quickly as possible and to reduce their arrears in education, there are newcomer groups. Because, when you feel at home, it's easier to learn. For a good start and education, being able to speak Dutch is of great importance.

What will my child be doing in a newcomers group?

We teach them oral and written skills in Dutch. We offer your child support and safety. We do this in a small group of about 12-15 students, so they will quickly feel at ease. The ages range from 6 to 12 years. Children with the ages of 4 and 5 years old go to group 1-2 in the primary school.

Where can I find a group of newcomers?

There is a group of newcomers in almost every district in Amsterdam. Sometimes children go to another district, for instance when there is no group available in the area or the group is full.

What does it cost?

Joining a group of newcomers will cost you nothing. However, there are the regular costs, such as parental contributions and costs for staying over during lunchbreak.

Who make all of this possible?

A group of experienced and well trained teachers. They know how to deal with pupils who are in this situation.

How do I register my child for a group?

You first register your child at a [primary school](#). Even if you or your child have no residence permit yet. The headmaster of the school will be able to provide more information about the newcomers group and guide you further.

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