

1. Strategy, objectives and priorities

The strategy of Driestar Educatief is to inspire, form and support teachers and schools to give good education. We see internationalization (international education) as an important aspect of good qualitative education. We find it important that knowledge is developed in close cooperation with other institutions across the border. Internationalization helps students and colleagues to broaden their vision. Our internationalization objectives and activities therefore are contributions to our institution mission. The participation in the Erasmus Programme is needed and will stimulate our international strategy more and more.

Previous experience in international exchange/cooperation programmes:

- An international programme, 'International Class', a 3 month course up to 15 to 20 ECTS open for international students.
- Knowledge, student and staff exchange with teacher training college in Tirgu Mures, Károli Gáspár University Budapest, Hungary (MATRA project), Helsinki University, Finland, Pädagogische Hochschule Liestal and with North-West University Potchefstroom, South Africa.
- Annual exchanges of groups of students with Heidelberg University, Germany and visits by 180 students to learning institutions in countries such as Belgium, England, Denmark, Ukraine, and Scotland.
- Cooperation with the foundation "Woord&Daad" regarding Education and Development Cooperation. Staff visits to different countries and offer courses.
- We are a member of the IAPCHE (international) network.
- The majority of these activities (85%) are set within the EU. The Erasmus programme will almost certainly lead to strengthening and broadening of these.

The Erasmus programme allows us the possibility of achieving a number of goals and priorities in our strategic policy plan:

- We will share knowledge on (Christian) Pedagogics with foreign students during several courses/programmes.
- At least 10% of the teaching staff will have taken part in international exchanges aimed at their professional development. It is our aim to have international oriented staff.
- Cooperation agreements with at least three institutions abroad, including an intensive annual exchange program for teaching staff and students.
- Annually, 10% of students will take part in longer-term international exchange projects.
- We design our programme in accordance with the Bologna declaration and contributes to the realisation of the European Higher Education by:
 - Promote/stimulate student mobility: make it more possible for students to spend study or placement periods of up to three months abroad.
 - Promote/stimulate staff mobility: enable members of staff to spend periods of study or placement abroad.
 - Build up new networks with institutions abroad.
 - Set up more international programs, ICT, publications, research projects, with institutions abroad.
 - Create awareness for the importance and relevance of lifelong learning and broaden perspectives.
 - Participate in the multilateral projects and networks of the Erasmus programme.

2. Quality of mobility

- Perform good hosting programs for incoming staff/students.
- Meetings with staff/students which explain the opportunities given by Erasmus and make this a fixed agenda point at staff meetings.
- Information on the website: publication of activities/opportunities within the Erasmus program. We mention that we are holders of the EUC and in addition indicate how many people avail themselves of the opportunities the Erasmus programme offers.
- Student bulletin, information sheets, bulletins, intranet
 - According the Dutch law we comply with non-discrimination objectives.
 - We have internal bylaws and we have a quality system for non-discrimination objectives, which guarantees compliance.
 - We are an institute who stands for a high social cohesion, and offer internal en external counselling for students en staff.
 - We have a special tutor who makes special and tailor-made arrangements for disabled people.
 - We signed the code of conduct.
- We are an accredited institute. From the Dutch-Flemish visitation committee we received a positive report.
- ECTS is integrated in our curricula and web based program, which give a good overview for (international) students. Programs are published on our website, the Nuffic website, course books.
- International Office provides students with information about possibilities; help them with practical arrangements by information sessions.
- Students make their program with tutor and receiving institute and formalize this in a learning agreement.
- International Office and tutor have on going contact with outgoing/incoming persons about the progress of the programme.
- After finalising the programme, students have to deliver a report which will be discussed. The study results will be recognised. Recognition of the credits takes place in cooperation with our internal examining board.
- Staff members are offered the possibility of participating (annual) in an international program abroad. This forms part of the employment, payment of salary remains unaffected. They can follow an international learning course, focus on skills, cultures, personal development, languages. They make a personal programme (activities/goals). After finalizing the program they inform colleagues (presentation and a report).
- We offer standard and tailor-made programmes for incoming students/staff. In the program is clearly agreed about their credits (learning agreement). International Office/tutors helps incoming students/staff with integrating in our institute/programs. They start with an introduction course. They have a buddy/supervisor who is responsible for taking care of; problems and the quality of the study/program.
- Accommodation and meals are arranged for each incoming person.
- Staff and students can improve their language skills by following language courses. All kind of languages are possible. These courses are free of charge.
- Quality department conducts regular evaluation procedures.