

How the School For Health is organised

The School For Health programme is funded by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment, and the Ministry of Economic Affairs. Together, these departments are the School For Health Steering Committee's client.

The Steering Committee includes representatives of the PO-Raad (Council for Primary Education), VO-Raad (Council for Secondary Education) and the MBO-Raad (Council for VET), RIVM's Centre for Healthy Living and GGD GHOR Nederland (the Association of Community Health Services and Regional Medical Emergency Preparedness and Planning Offices in the Netherlands). These organisations are responsible for implementing the 2017-2020 programme plan. In this context, they cooperate closely with regional Community Health Services, health funds, trade unions, civil society organisations and thematic institutes in the area of healthy lifestyles.

The School For Health programme team consists of a programme leader and project leaders for each sub-theme. GGD GHOR Nederland acts as the programme's 'host'. The progress and quality of the programme are monitored, to ensure full accountability vis-à-vis its clients.

Want more details?

Would you like to find out more about how the School For Health programme is organised? See the 'over ons' (about us) page at www.gezondeschool.nl (information in Dutch). Here, too, you can find the full version of the programme plan. **Or get in touch via info@gezondeschool.nl.**

You spoke with:

Contact details:

Space for notes



GEZONDE
SCHOOL

SCHOOLS FOR HEALTH

Health engrained in the DNA of every school



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A healthy lifestyle engrained in the DNA of every school in the Netherlands. That is the School For Health programme's mission. The programme combines 'education' and 'health'. This leads to greater health gains, fewer health disparities, and improved educational performance.

Unique cooperation

Within the School For Health programme, around forty national organisations are cooperating to promote a healthy lifestyle at school.

What do we do?

The programme uses the School For Health approach to encourage primary schools, secondary schools, and VET (Vocational Education and Training) schools to take action, by working on healthy lifestyles at school. This means that schools can tackle one or more health themes in an integrated way:

- nutrition
- exercise and sport
- preventing smoking, alcohol use and drug use
- well-being, relationships and sexuality
- hygiene, skin and teeth
- indoor environment, natural environment and physical safety
- media literacy
- hearing loss

Schools that excel in one or more of these themes can apply for School For Health certificates for a number of these themes.

School For Health approach

The School Health approach is based on four pillars – education, environment, signalling, and policy. An integrated approach involves working on these four pillars, in the context of a single theme.

Who do we do it for?

The 2017-2020 School For Health programme is for all types of schools, but with a special focus on schools that have a vulnerable student population. These are children from low socioeconomic status families and those in the special education system (primary and secondary schools for children with special educational needs).

Health engrained in the DNA of every school

That sounds great, but how do we achieve it?

1. Any school can use the www.gezondeschool.nl website to take action and get to work on a healthy lifestyle. The website content is up to date and has been coordinated with our extensive network of partners.
2. In the course of the programme, 1750 schools (20% of the total number of school sites) will be offered support. This takes the form of a sum of €3,000 for running Schools for Health activities. In granting support, we focus primarily on the most vulnerable children. In addition, the Nutrition theme award was an important prerequisite for obtaining a financial contribution from the Dutch Heart Foundation in 2017 and from the Early Learning Good Eating Habits programme (2017, 2018 and 2019).
3. Schools designate a School For Health coordinator. That is someone on the school's staff who is in charge of health promotion and who acts as a point of contact. All School For Health coordinators are given a special training course.
4. Dedicated consultants from the 25 Community Health Services in The Netherlands provide schools with advice and practical support. These School For Health consultants are also offered a special training course.
5. Schools that want to show they excel because health is engrained in their DNA can apply for School For Health certificates for a number of themes.

Links

School For Health is a partnership. The programme seeks to establish links with other programmes and projects operating in the area where health and education converge. These include Young People at a Healthy Weight (JOGG), Health is Everything, Early Learning Good Eating Habits, and Sport and Exercise in the Community. In this way, we make it easier for schools.

