

Fresh Start

Dear students, parents/caretakers, teachers and other interested parties,

We have started the first year of "The Bridge HDT" in Amsterdam Southeast with lots of enthusiasm! Students from de Achtsprong, De Blauwe Lijn, Crescendo, de Morgenster and de Rozemarn have been receiving Bridge High Dosage Tutoring (HDT) since September 2nd. A total of 56 fifth graders will be receiving HDT during the course of this school year. During this whole school year, we will be tutoring these students. They have been divided into duos and their own personal tutor, which have been arranged in collaboration with the grade teachers. We are grateful for the reception that we have received from all of the schools and are looking forward to further collaborating with one another.



The students will receive 45 minutes of math tutoring on a daily basis. The students will be working from our own curriculum, which is based on the national 1F-level (the minimal level at the end of primary education). The curriculum starts with addition and subtraction and builds up towards calculations with volume and liters. The students will be doing this at their own pace. The tutors only have two students at a time, which makes it possible to customize the tutor lessons and thus adapt it to the level and interests of the students. This also makes it possible for the tutor to pay more attention to the subjects that the student is struggling with.

The research results of the very first HDT project by The Bridge, which took place in a secondary school in Amsterdam, have been very positive.

Our team in Amsterdam Southeast will consist of six full-time professional tutors, one substitute tutor, myself the site director, the program manager: Lieslot Roelandts and the director: Anne Kielman. The team has gotten to know each other in the week prior to the start of the tutoring sessions as well as receiving an intensive training. During the whole year they'll receive weekly feedback from me as well. As an organisation we believe that everybody, whether young or old, can grow and that everybody can develop themselves, both personally and professionally.

The tutors will provide the tutoring sessions by themselves, however they will also do a lot together.

During the collective preparations of the lessons, the tutors will focus on one or two lessons from the curriculum and discuss the different strategies that can be applied to educate the students. During our weekly intervention the tutors will give each other feedback and advice on certain issues that have come up during the week.

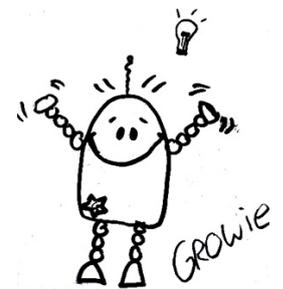
Aside from math we also pay attention to focus, collaboration between students and the importance of a correct attitude. We strive to make students realize everybody can become good at math when they practice and believe in themselves. The tutors will be in contact with parents on a weekly basis in order to keep them updated on the developments. We also exchange information with the school staff in order to support the students in the best way possible. We believe that this collaboration is essential to a successful project!

On behalf of the whole team,

Alexandra Nacev,
 Site Director of The Bridge HDT
 Amsterdam Southeast

Hersenkraaker

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Introducing: Director Anne Kielman

Would you like to introduce yourself?

I have been working at The Bridge for the last two years. Before that I worked as a tutor. Because of my enthusiasm I was able to work as a site director and eventually as the director. As a tutor I was really impressed with the potential of the students that doesn't always come out. I did see it in HDT, and I also saw the impact that it had on the kids. As the director I am working to launch new projects, guaranteeing the quality of the existing projects and the coaching of site directors during my weekly visit to Haarlem and Amsterdam Southeast. I am also in contact with the municipality and the other financiers and work on the recruiting new tutors.

What is the most important difference between HDT and other forms of tutoring?

I think the most important difference is that HDT takes place within the schools. This makes it possible for us to become a part of the regular school day and to be in contact with the school staff. We work in a team with different tutors that can support each other and provide each other with feedback. HDT is very full-on and the social relationships between the tutors and the students are at the core of the project. The tutors are also in contact with the parents on a weekly basis.

What is the eventual goal of HDT?

The Bridge strives to reduce the inequality of opportunity in primary and secondary education. We want to show people that everyone can grow in their abilities. Besides that, we hope to be a supplement to the teachers.



Alexandra Nacev – Site Director



Astra Eersel - Tutor



Monica de Paus - Tutor



Amber Vreeken - Tutor



Mirella Wesseling - Tutor



Vanelly Ellis - Tutor



Joosje Slot - Tutor



Linda de Graaff - Substitute tutor & project assistant



Anne Kielman - Director



Lieselot Roelandts – Program Manager

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. How did HDT come about and in which manner do you do research on the results of the project?

The method of HDT originally was developed in the United States. Scientific research has proven that HDT is a successful learning intervention. SAGA Education is the American organisation that implements HDT and they currently provide us with advice. Our projects are also continuously researched by a research team from the University of Amsterdam, which is led by dr. Bowen Paulle. The Bridge is convinced that independent scientific research is needed in order to measure the effects of learning interventions like HDT.

2. Which classes do the students miss when they go to the tutoring sessions?

The teacher is the one that decides which classes will be missed by the students. This varies each day. The students will never miss their regular math classes. The duration of each tutor lesson is 45 minutes. The research shows that the students' grades do not drop because of their participation in the project.

3. Will the tutors teach the same method as is taught by the school?

In HDT we use a math curriculum that is developed by The Bridge. This math curriculum is based on the national 1F-level (minimum math level at the end of primary education). It consists of 4 domains (numbers, ratios, measurements, and proportions). The math strategies will be similar to the ones taught in class, in order to prevent confusion for the students.



The Bridge HDT



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