

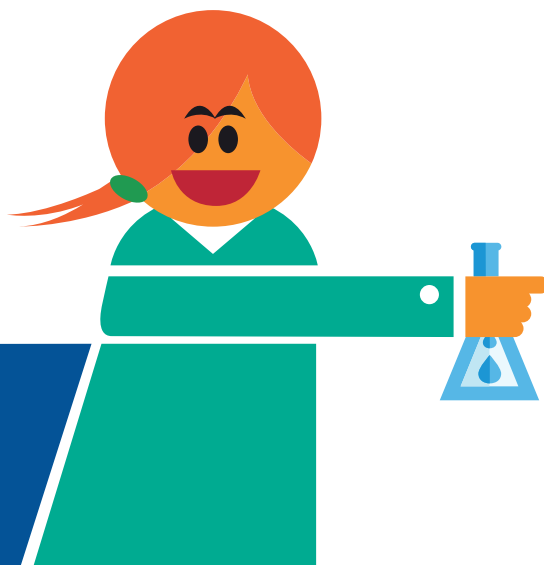


Stedelijk  
Onderwijs



# The Antwerp City Education

Inspiration for  
a lifetime





the Antwerp City Education  
Inspiration for a lifetime





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A piece of chalk, a blackboard and a few school benches. That is how the story of the Antwerp city education started in April 1819. The passionate teacher Jan Frans Van de Gaer was asked to teach the first class in a tiny classroom in St. James's Chapel, on the corner of Keizerstraat and Prinsesstraat. His pupils were poor lads who could not afford the tuition in one of the many Catholic schools in the city. Accessible and qualitative education for everyone, that was the city's ambition at the time. And the situation is no different today.

Welcome to the Antwerp City Education!



1819



Antwerp mayor Van Ertborn founds the first city school for poor boys in Keizerstraat. Jan Frans Van de Gaer was also appointed as headmaster and taught reading, writing and arithmetic to 300 children.

# Education in Antwerp

Antwerp has 516,009 inhabitants. More than 110,350 Antwerpers are under 18 and go to school in one of the 420 Antwerp primary and secondary schools. Almost 44,000 young people attend classes at an Antwerp university or university college. Moreover Antwerp is experiencing significant demographic growth.

Various educational systems organise education in the city. With its general educational policy the town council provides support to all the Antwerp schools for their educational mission, regardless which system they belong to.

## EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS

### **State education (Gemeenschapsonderwijs or GO!)**

This education is organised at the behest of the Flemish Community. The former national educational system has to remain neutral. This means that the religious, philosophical and ideological convictions of the parents and the pupils have to be respected.





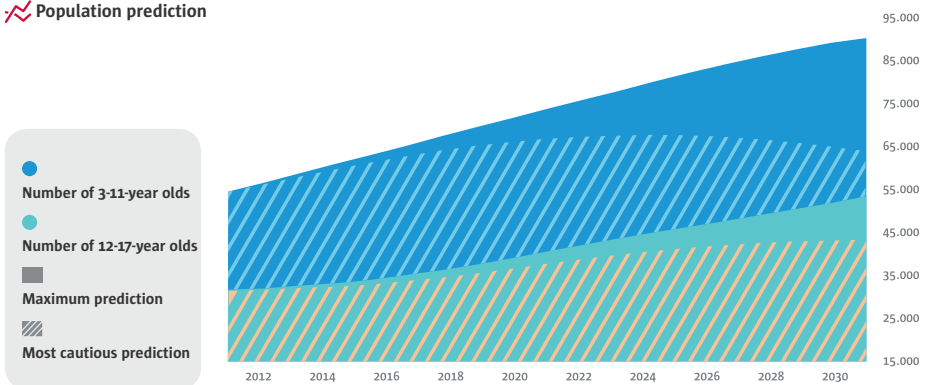
### Official subsidised education (Officieel Gesubsidieerd Onderwijs or OGO)

This includes all education organised by a municipality, a city, a province or in the case of Brussels, the Flemish Community Commission (Vlaamse Gemeenschapscommissie or VGC). The official subsidised system welcomes all ideologies. The Antwerp City Education is part of the subsidised system.

### Subsidised free schools (Vrij Gesubsidieerd Onderwijs or VGO)

This education is organised on private initiative (i.e. not by the state). It is based on religious or educational principles and primarily consists of Catholic schools as well as Protestant, Jewish or orthodox schools. Besides this there are also schools that are associated with a specific educational method, such as the Freinet, Montessori or Steiner (Waldorf) schools.

 Population prediction



# the Antwerp City Education

Accessible, challenging and future-oriented: the Antwerp City Education is one of the major school authorities in Flanders, offering almost 55,000 pupils and students the opportunity to develop their skills and talent on a daily basis. They are motivated and inspired by 6,545 teachers, support staff and policy officers.

The majority of our employees are subsidised by the Flemish Community and work in the schools, academies and centres. The other employees work in the support departments. The Antwerp City Education has 116 schools, academies and centres for adult education in 172 locations throughout the city of Antwerp.

Following the autonomy of Antwerp City Education in 2010 into a City Education Authority, our organisation's operations have undergone a significant change. The organisation developed a flexible, modern structure, allowing it to control its own future.

# THE ANTWERP CITY EDUCATION



**178**

LOCATIONS

**321**

BUILDINGS

**116**

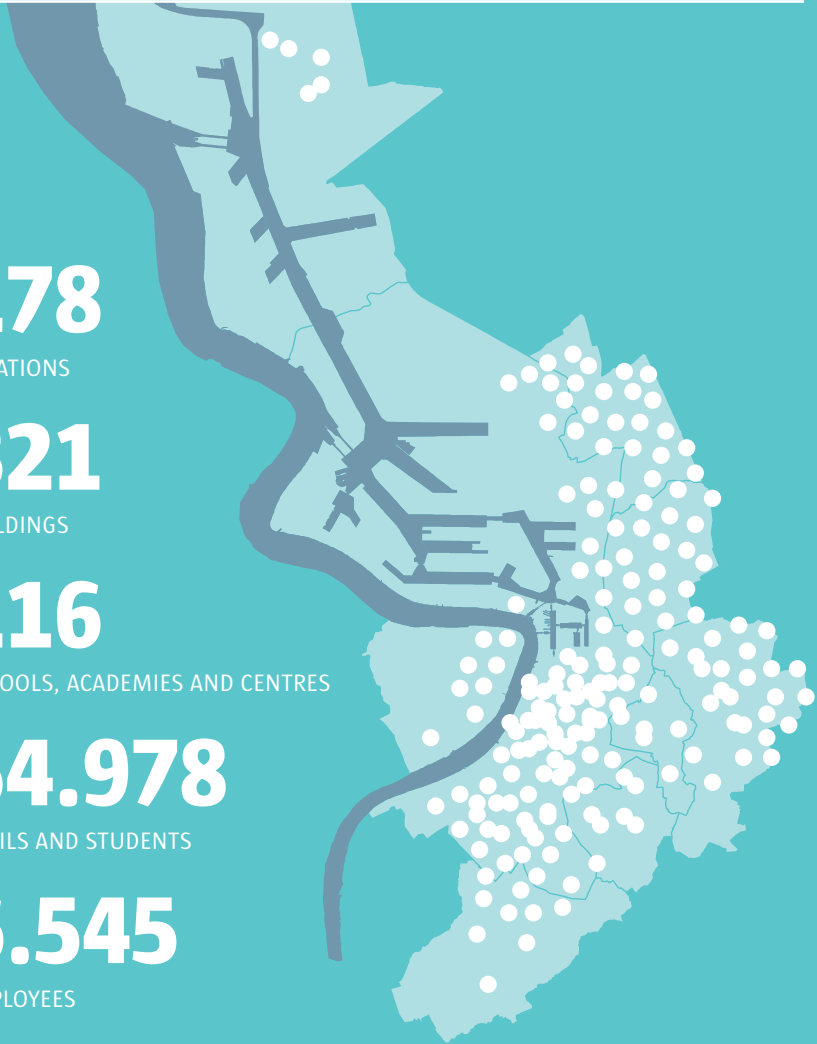
SCHOOLS, ACADEMIES AND CENTRES

**54.978**

PUPILS AND STUDENTS

**6.545**

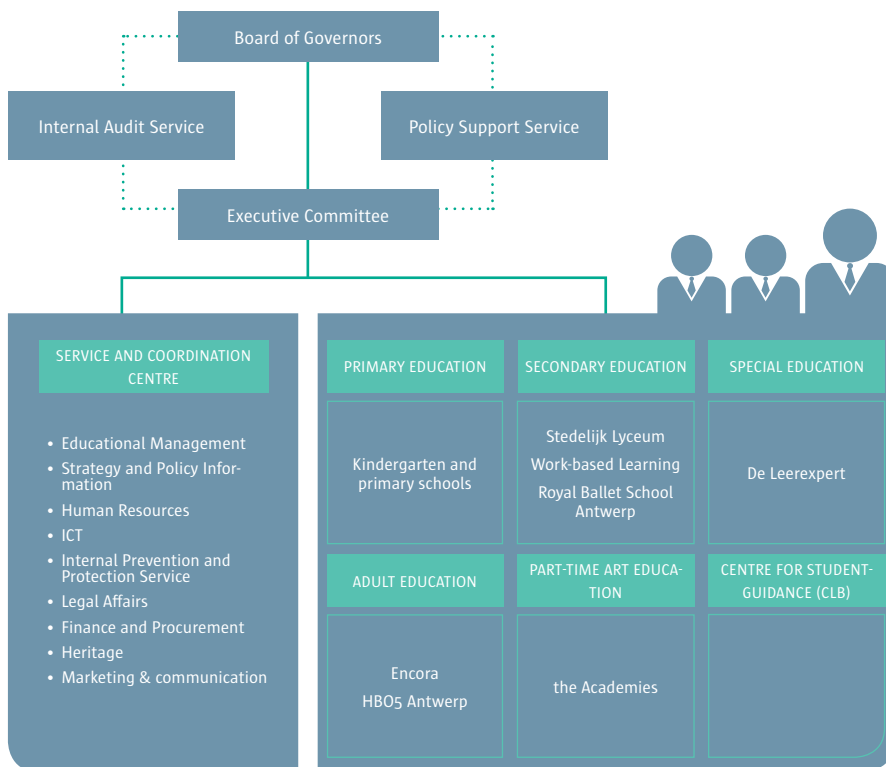
EMPLOYEES



## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

An executive committee and a board of governors set out the City Education Authority's policy vision and the strategic objectives. The Board of Governors counts 12 members (representatives of the political parties with representation on Antwerp's town council), which is presided by the alderman for education.

A divisional director heads the five educational divisions and the city's Centre for student guidance (CLB). Together with the City Schools director, the heritage director and the financial director they make up the executive committee. Along with the management team and the steering committees they ensure that the entire organisation follows the same course.





# Primary education

## Public kindergartens and primary schools

**72**  
SCHOOLS

**22.071**  
PUPILS

**2.402**  
EMPLOYEES

**37%**  
MARKET SHARE IN  
ANTWERP

The Antwerp City Education has a wide range of kindergartens and primary schools. They target the children who live nearby, even though each school has its own positioning and profile. The 72 kindergartens and primary schools are grouped into five school groups.

All our schools provide pre- and after school minding services. We also schedule naps for small children so that the kindergartners can attend school after lunch. The Antwerp City Education has much more to offer than education during school hours: in many schools children can attend music, dance, spoken word and visual arts classes thanks to the programmes of our Academies.

### DID YOU KNOW THAT?

#### DALTON SCHOOLS

There are only a few Dalton schools in Flanders. Two of our Antwerp kindergartens and primary schools (De Kleurenboom and Kleine Muze) work according to the Dalton plan. The emphasis in these schools is on independence, working together and freedom in restraint.

#### ROBOT CASES

The Antwerp city primary schools wish to incorporate technology in education in an accessible manner. We do this among others with the Robot case, a case that contains several robots and teaching materials. It makes learning more fun but at the same time we also anticipate on education and tomorrow's world.



## INSPIRATION

People on education

“We also do activities in other classes, such as reading aloud to toddlers.”

Asmae Tahri,  
pupil of De Horizon



“My job is to provide support to teachers so that they can do their job in the most optimal setting.”

Maria Corten,  
pedagogical guidance,  
primary education



“Our classes are open spaces in which pupils of different ages help one another.”

Hilde Witters, teacher of  
Kosmos

“We are invited to play board games in class once a month.”

Lucie, mum of Luna, a pupil of De Evenaar

# Secondary education

## Stedelijk Lyceum

**19**  
SCHOOLS

**6.882**  
PUPILS

**1.543**  
EMPLOYEES

**20,6%**  
MARKET SHARE  
IN ANTWERP

Stedelijk Lyceum has a very diverse range of study programmes, in 30 different locations in Antwerp. The programmes are clustered according to areas of interest.

Every area of interest has a general, technical, vocational or artistic study programme and the programmes are clustered in one location where possible. If the student changes study programmes within a specific area of interest the transition is gentler and the student's chances of success are significantly better. Young people can learn more about their interests and make an informed choice of a study programme at [www.interesstest.be](http://www.interesstest.be).

Besides Stedelijk Lyceum there are also the separate profiles: Werkend Leren Antwerpen - Work-based learning, the centre for part-time education, the Royal Ballet School Antwerp and the Elite Sport Stedelijk Lyceum, for which you require special permission.

### DID YOU KNOW THAT?

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Antwerp City Education is trying to get more boys and girls to follow technical study programmes. In 2016 a new campus will be built, which specifically focuses on science and technology.

#### ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL ANTWERP

On the occasion of its sixtieth anniversary the Antwerp Royal Ballet School received the High Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Mathilde. For over sixty years the school has trained dancers who have gone on to dance with some of the leading international dance companies.





## INSPIRATION

People on education



## PART-TIME WORKING AND LEARNING

"Werkend Leren Antwerpen is a centre instead of a school. I go to school here twice a week so I can still obtain my diploma."

Liliane Verley,  
student Administrative employee  
Werkend Leren Antwerpen



## ELITE SPORT STEDELIJK LYCEUM

"The combination of 20 hours of general subjects and 12 hours of sport requires a lot of discipline. Increasingly frequently our pupils participate in training sessions or courses abroad. As a result distance learning is becoming increasingly important. Our school has developed a high quality digital learning platform for this purpose."

Frans Van den Wyngaert,  
headmaster Stedelijk Lyceum Topsport

# Special Education De Leerexpert

**13**  
SCHOOLS

**2.058**  
PUPILS

**846**  
EMPLOYEES

**44%**  
MARKET SHARE IN  
ANTWERP

Children and young people who require special assistance because of a disability or learning or behavioural problems can attend one of the thirteen kindergartens, primary and secondary schools for special education of De Leerexpert.

Here children receive tailor-made care. Children are always enrolled here through the CLB or the centre for student guidance. Children and teens can also receive medical and therapeutic assistance at the Medical Pedagogical Institutes (MPI). A special needs student can also follow courses in ordinary education if he or she receives additional support and assistance from special education. De Leerexpert GON/ION (Integrated Education) can provide assistance in such a case. Children who require hospital treatment and who wish to continue their schooling in hospital can do this through De Leerexpert Hospital School. De Leerexpert also makes available its expertise to school teams in ordinary education.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT?

### M-DECREET (FLEMISH PARLIAMENT ACT)

After the M-Flemish Parliament Act becomes effective as of September 2015 each child will in principle be able to enrol in an ordinary school. The space that is freed up at De Leerexpert will be used to reduce the waiting lists for children with mental disabilities or autism.

### MENTOR TEAM

The special education division has a specific mentor team which provides guidance and support to new teachers.



## INSPIRATION People on education



### POWERTREE

“Last year we organised a POWERTREE project for the first time. Every pupil of De Leerexpert was given the opportunity to express him or herself in a creative manner, in some cases in relation to his or her disability. They could do this with a poem, a photo, a painting, singing, dancing... All their efforts were combined in an amazing and moving performance”

Cindy Joosens, Marketing- & communication employee  
De Leerexpert



“Children with autism require a lot of structure and clarity. This makes them feel at ease and facilitates learning. Our gardening project helps them do this: they become calmer there and it also helps them develop other talents.”

Annick Ulfelt, headmistress De Leerexpert



“Every year I see more than 300 children in hospital. Only a handful choose not to continue to attend school. What more can I say?”

Hans Hoet, teacher De Leerexpert Hospital School

# Adult education

## Encora and HBO5 Antwerp

**2**

CENTRES

Antwerp's ninety secondary school study programmes in adult education all use the name Encora.

**13.823**

STUDENTS

The level 5 higher vocational study programmes can be found at HBO5 Antwerp.

**514**

EMPLOYEES

Encora offers a wide range of study programmes. They are subdivided into 12 areas of interest, including ICT, technology and languages.

**40%**

MARKET SHARE IN  
ANTWERP

The higher vocational education of HBO5 Antwerp mainly aims to prepare young people for their entrance into the labour market in a more targeted manner. At the same time they also prepare for further learning and a professional Bachelor's degree (level 6).

### DID YOU KNOW THAT?

#### TEACHER TRAINING

You can study to change careers and become a teacher in teacher training. Anyone who has already acquired some expertise in another profession and/or holds a secondary, higher or university education diploma is eligible to enrol. The programme combines theory with practice.

#### ANOTHER CHANCE TO OBTAIN A DIPLOMA

At Encora people can still obtain their diploma. The General Supplementary Courses study programme in combination with a study programme geared towards employment result in a full-fledged secondary education diploma.



## INSPIRATION

### People on education

“Encora has the widest range of Dutch language courses for people who speak another language in Flanders. Depending on the student's learning skills, demand and level there are various options to choose from. Our Dutch language students come from all over the world. Some recently arrived in Belgium while others have been living here for years. Learning Dutch is very important for them. Not just for finding a job but also for developing their social life.”

Ad Doom, headmistress Encora



“Three quarters of our students are in their twenties. The remainder are between the ages of 30 and 50. The group is very heterogeneous as a result. Which is good because the older people hate a school mindset, ask a lot of questions and get the younger students on board.”

Lena Wiers, lecturer Remedial Education, Social Work and Social-Cultural Work, HBO5 Antwerp



“The lecturers all work in a business environment and are very motivated. This is a very good and feasible study programme, even for people who have left school some time ago or who only have a diploma of technical secondary education. The module system is very handy. I now follow classes three evenings a week. If that doesn't work out for me during the next semester then I simply choose fewer modules.”

Ignace Coppens, student Marketing HBO5 study programme

# Part-time art education

## The Academies

**10**  
ACADEMIES

Ten Antwerp Public Academies in 40 locations offer courses in visual arts, music, spoken word or dance. The Academies cater to people of all ages.

**9.826**  
STUDENTS

The Academies offer more than 120 study programmes.

**487**  
EMPLOYEES

They have a separate programme for small children in which they are introduced to a wide range of music disciplines. Once a year our Academies and their students demonstrate what they have achieved during the Part-time art education day.

**81%**  
MARKET SHARE IN  
ANTWERP

### DID YOU KNOW THAT?

#### A UNIQUE PROGRAMME

Several academies have joined forces to organise three umbrella modules on "Historical instruments". They have established a partnership for this with cultural partners such as "Paleis op de Meir", "Amuz", "deSingel" and "Vleeshuis".

#### MUSICAL EXPERTISE IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The Academies have developed a concept to introduce children to part-time education from a young age in primary school. A teacher of the Academy will teach music during and after school hours in primary school.

The musical expertise in primary schools is enhanced thanks to the intense collaboration.



## INSPIRATION

People on education

“We focus heavily on the partnership with primary education. We reach a different and very diverse audience by organising children's workshops in kindergartens and primary schools. That is what we want to continue doing in the years to come.”

Linde Desmet,  
Headmistress Public Academy Berchem



“I specifically enrolled in this academy because they have a Pop/Jazz department.”

Tom Bruyns,  
Pop/Jazz student, Public Academy Borgerhout



“I am so lucky. I get to do my job in a fascinating environment. I really enjoy seeing my pupils follow their own course as a teacher and seeing how it ultimately results in interesting and personal work.”

Goele De Beuckeleer,  
teacher Digital visual education, Public Academy of Merksem and Berchem



# Centre for Student Guidance

## Antwerp's CLB

The Antwerp Centre for Student Guidance (CLB) specialises in requests in four areas: learning and studying, mental and social functioning, school career guidance and preventative health care.

Parents, teachers, headmasters and children or young people can contact the centre for information, assistance and guidance. Every year the CLB intervenes in 11.500 instances.

The centre employs 125 different professionals: physicians, nurses, social workers, psychologists, teachers...

Together with the school the team ensures that each child can develop

his or her knowledge, talent and skills to the best of his or her ability.

The centre works in our schools in primary, special and secondary education. Besides this it also works in four so-called contract schools.

Every year more than 13.000 children between the ages of 4 and 15 years visit the centre in the frame of a medical exam.

### DID YOU KNOW THAT?

#### SOLVING PROBLEMS IN A CHAT SESSION

Antwerp's Centre for Student Guidance is the first of its kind to have a chatline so that pupils can easily ask their questions or discuss their problems online. They can do this at [www.clbchat.be](http://www.clbchat.be)

#### EMPOWERMENT

In a class with a safe social climate there are very few or even no complaints about bullying, rows, exclusion... An employee of Antwerp's Centre for Student Guidance supports schools in the framework of the Empowerment project, helping them to create a positive and safe class climate.





# Support departments

## Service and Coordination Centre

The Antwerp City Education has their own service and coordination centre across the educational divisions for all common matters. The centre is responsible for processes that are operational throughout the organisation and that require monitoring. These processes are relevant for all the divisions and provide support to the school teams.

The service and coordination centre ensures that there is a central overview of all the processes and projects within the organisation. This creates more transparency and efficiency in the operations of the schools, academies and centres.

The centre provides support and coordinates the following processes:

- Educational Management
- Strategy and Policy Information
- Finance and Procurement
- Human Resources
- ICT
- Legal Affairs
- Internal Prevention and Protection Service
- Heritage with the following divisions: technical maintenance, real estate projects and facility services
- Marketing & Communication



## INSPIRATION People on education

“School teams ask me for advice and support about how to deal with diversity. Often there are communication problems with pupils or their parents or misunderstandings. I listen and arbitrate where necessary. It works. I also support schools helping them develop a diversity policy.”

Zouhra Naeme,  
Diversity employee



“Colleagues can contact us for legal advice about all matters related to pupils and employees. But we also welcome questions about public tenders and other topics such as privacy. We also manage the insurance portfolios and the damage claims.”

Karolien Naert,  
manager Legal Affairs

“All the schools are set to work with recommendations and possible shortcomings after an audit. We help them resolve these shortcomings and establish an improvement project with quality cards.”

An de Kinderen,  
employee Educational Management

# International exchanges

The Antwerp City Education wants to help its pupils and students turn into world citizens who help build tomorrow's city. The school teams and pupils of the Antwerp City Education are given the opportunity to participate in exchange programmes through various international projects.

## THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL.

The Antwerp City Education wants to help its pupils and students turn into world citizens who help build tomorrow's city. The school teams and pupils of the Antwerp City Education are given the opportunity to participate in exchange programmes through various international projects.



“Does it make sense to participate in an international exchange project in kindergarten? Absolutely! The children become aware of the fact that there is a lot more going on outside of their protected world. They learn to search for cultural information about their own country and about countries of the partnership. The programme significantly stimulates their creativity and their involvement also visibly increases.”

Vera Van Steenbergem,  
former headmistress kindergarten and primary school  
Hoedjes van Papier

## TWINNING

Ten teachers spent two weeks teaching in partner schools in the north-east of Morocco. They stayed with host families and learnt more about the cultural background of a large share of the pupils in their classes in Antwerp.



## FURTHER TRAINING ABROAD

Every year teachers, headmasters and headmistresses as well as employees of the Antwerp City Education can follow further training in another European country thanks to a European scholarship.

 “I spent the first week of August in France thanks to a European scholarship: it was a real immersion in the French language but I also brushed up my knowledge of pedagogical matters. An excellent training!”

Maya Verhoeven,  
teacher kindergarten and primary school Sportomundo

## DURING A TRAINING COURSE IN SPAIN

Pupils of the 6th year Restaurant-Kitchen

and 7th year world gastronomy of the Stedelijk Lyceum Lamorinière received a Leonardo da Vinci scholarship giving them the opportunity to train abroad for several weeks. They have already worked in various restaurants in Altea (Spain) and in Finland. It proved to be a unique experience for the students. One student, Bjorn, was even offered a contract in the restaurant where he trained in Finland.

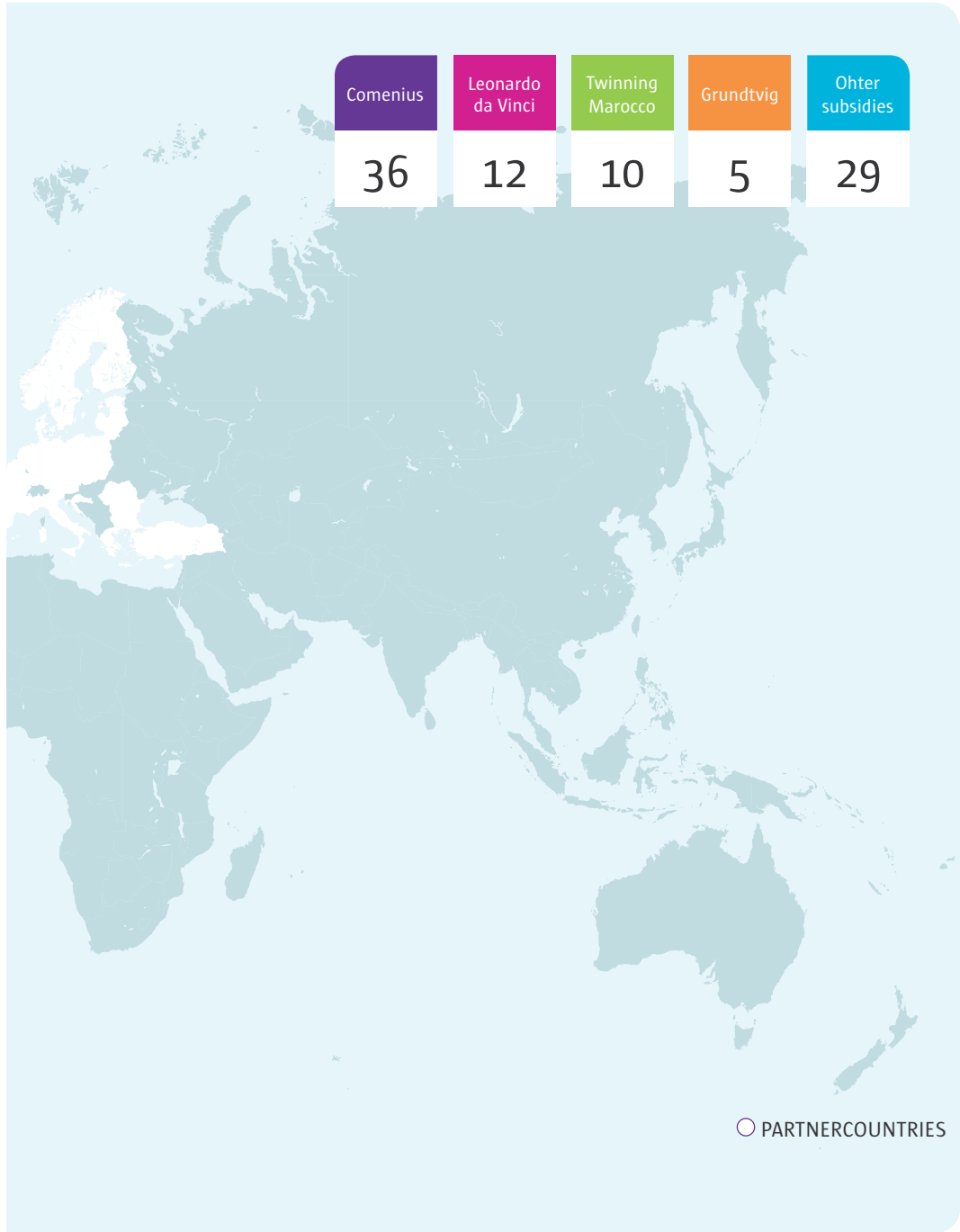
 “The restaurants were very impressed with the expertise of the students, some pupils were even offered a job. They acquired expertise but also matured significantly on the emotional and social level.”

Luc Verstraeten,  
chef Stedelijk Lyceum Lamorinière

# Overview of foreign projects

All the updated information is available at [www.stedelijkonderwijs.be/internationaal](http://www.stedelijkonderwijs.be/internationaal)

- 
- Belgium
  - Bulgaria
  - Cyprus
  - Denmark
  - Germany
  - Estonia
  - Finland
  - France
  - Ghana
  - Greece
  - Iceland
  - Italy
  - Croatia
  - Latvia
  - Lithuania
  - Malta
  - Morocco
  - The Netherlands
  - Norway
  - Austria
  - Poland
  - Portugal
  - Romania
  - Spain
  - Slovakia
  - Turkey
  - Czech Republic
  - USA
  - United Kingdom
  - Sweden



What started out as the project of a passionate teacher almost two centuries ago has become an inspired story to which thousands of employees contribute.. And yet we look surprisingly ordinary and we like things to be efficient and practical. We are alert, critical and constantly search for ways of doing things better. We believe that you are never too old to learn and this also applies to us. Because the Antwerp City Education provides inspiration for a lifetime.



**1820**

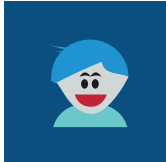
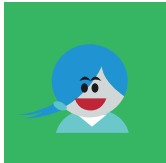


After a brief but very successful career as the first Antwerp teacher and headmaster , Jan Frans Van de Gaer died on 14 December 1820. He is cited as an example and praised for his work in several documents.



# Our employees

The Antwerp City Education is a very diverse organisation. People with very different jobs, tasks and talents together ensure that almost 55.000 children and adults receive education in an efficient manner. Generally speaking our employees are subdivided into two categories: subsidised and non-subsidised personnel. The subsidised personnel is paid by Flanders.

	NON-SUBSIDISED	SUBSIDISED
PERSONNEL	786	5.779
	167	1.429
	619	4.350



## A STORY OF PEOPLE

Schools rely on people. Teachers, cleaners, project managers, headmasters and headmistresses, administrative staff... Everyone has a story to share.

“I love welcoming toddlers in September and seeing children leave in June, knowing that they have learnt so much during the past year. You have a lot of freedom as a teacher and you can be creative. And you need this to find the tailor-made approach to work with 25 little individuals.”

Anneke Currinckx, teacher primary school De Spiegel

“We do everything we can to help our pupils, in spite of their home situation which can sometimes be quite complicated. I want everyone to look at our pupils in the most positive way possible. Given the perception of postal code 2060 this is often not the case. That is why our slogan is "everyone in the picture, nobody out of the picture.”

Hedwige Lefeber, headmistress Stedelijk Lyceum Lange Beeldekens



“Some people thought that I was mad to return a few years after I retired. But I get a lot of appreciation from my colleagues and the pupils. I feel useful.”

Marcel Noens, volunteer at De Leerexpert in Begijnenvest



"The Antwerp City Education gives me the space to experiment with innovative, competence-oriented education. I find this really important. I developed my own method with the collaboration of a lecturer in pedagogical sciences and the talent manager of a large petrochemical company. The Queen Paola education prize was a fantastic reward for my efforts."

Mike Verbeeck, teacher at Stedelijk Lyceum Meir

"I was given the opportunity to become the headmistress of Prins Dries School. I immediately felt at home there thanks to the friendly welcome by all my colleagues. Now I know the school inside and out. Probably because I spent more time at school than at home during the past months. When you start out as a headmaster you find yourself in a whirlwind. It is impossible to explain what your job entails and how diverse it is. Fortunately I was able to rely on the other headmasters and headmistresses of our school group and their experience."

Laura Baaijens, headmistress kindergarten and primary school Prins Dries

"I like to talk to people, so I would never be able to work in an empty office building for example. There is always something going on at school: the children have questions, the teachers and the headmaster are easy to approach. That is why my job is such fun. Otherwise I wouldn't be able to do this for another 28 years."

Liane Simons, cleaner at kindergarten and primary school Crea 16



# Contact

## SCHOOLS, ACADEMIES AND CENTRES

You can find further information about all the schools, academies and centres of the Antwerp City Education on the website: [www.stedelijkonderwijs.be](http://www.stedelijkonderwijs.be)

## SERVICE AND COORDINATION CENTRE

The offices of the director of the Antwerp City Education Authority and the support departments are at:

Lange Gasthuisstraat 15  
2000 Antwerpen  
freephone 0800 23 019 or 03 338 33 14  
[info@so.antwerpen.be](mailto:info@so.antwerpen.be)

## ANTWERP CENTRE FOR STUDENT ASSISTANCE (CLB)

Lange Gasthuisstraat 24  
2000 Antwerpen  
03 206 13 11  
[clb@so.antwerpen.be](mailto:clb@so.antwerpen.be)

## WORKING IN THE ANTWERP CITY EDUCATION

You can apply for a job at  
[www.stedelijkonderwijs.be/vacatures](http://www.stedelijkonderwijs.be/vacatures)

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES

Bram Goris  
0032 3 338 3308





## COLOPHON

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