



Vereniging voor christelijk onderwijs

# Education for children with special needs in the Netherlands

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## General context

- Circa 30% public schools and 70% independent schools
- School boards responsible for 'fitting education'
- Compulsary regional collaboration of all school boards
- Regional budgets based on national average
- Regional boards for primary and secondary schools in charge of allocation of pupils and finances



## Policy aims

- Special schools only if regular schools really cannot handle
- Light care for children with special needs in regular schools regionally organised using 'centers of expertise' (special schools)
- Specialisation of regular schools on certain special needs
- Equal sharing of the burden



## Problems and challenges

- Position of small school boards
- Allocation of pupils versus freedom of education
- Extra burden for teachers in regular schools
- Financial problems in certain regions
- No final solution for 'homestayers' (ca. 9.000 in 2016)