Supplementary, motivation-oriented education for curious young people at locations in the Netherlands where it is most needed.

This is where we create the future.
Court

Students from IMC Basis during a re-enacted lawsuit in the Court of Den Bosch

Through encounters with guest teachers, the students develop skills such as presenting, collaborating and asking questions
‘I would like to become an engineer; do you know an engineer?’

It was these kinds of questions that opened the eyes of psychologist Heleen Terwijn. She carried out research in Amsterdam Zuidoost into the motivation of students in primary education and discovered that nothing was being done with these questions. Students were in school to ‘learn for later’ whilst nobody showed them what ‘later’ actually looked like. This is how her idea arose to introduce children in the receptive age of 10 to 14 years, together with enthusiastic guest teachers, to interesting professional fields. With financial support from IMC Financial Markets & Asset Management, IMC Weekendschool was able to start in 1998.

The Stichting IMC Weekendschool has in the meantime grown into an organisation with broad social support. In collaboration with our network of partners and volunteers, our teaching programs reach over 3,000 students every week, at 58 locations throughout the country.

And this is still happening in accordance with the concept that is as simple as it is stimulating: through realistic assignments, we ask guest teachers to let the students experience what it is like to be in their shoes. They will be able to put in stitches with a surgeon, debate with a minister, lead a legal case, design a building or produce a newspaper. Guest teachers not only talk about their profession or field but also about their own experience and the choices that they have made in their lives.

In this collaboration, the spark of a motivated attitude to life also imparts to the students. They can experiment to their hearts content in the real world and are encouraged to meet it with a curious and engaged attitude. They widen their horizons, increase their self-confidence and strengthen their ties with society. In this way, young people prepare themselves in a playful way for the most important step after their school life: making motivated choices for the future.

‘I always use IMC Basis as an example when it comes to creating equal opportunities in education.’

Ria Westendorp, Primary Education Director, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science
Personal development

We aim to educate all young people of all school levels in such a way that they are motivated to take their place in society. To achieve this, work is being done on specific objectives.

Broadening future prospects
Students gain a better understanding of social options and career opportunities and are better able to identify their interests and capacities. This means that they are well-informed and have an open-minded approach to life.

Increasing self-confidence
Encouragement, broadening knowledge and skills training contribute to an increase in self-confidence and making well-founded choices.

Strengthening connectedness
By practicing with social roles, dealing with professionals and delving into moral issues as a result of various professional practices, the students develop a stronger bond with society.

‘Look in the mirror and tell yourself: I am great! Because if you don’t believe in yourself, nobody else will. And the weekend school challenges you in that’

Tania Kross, guest teacher
21st-century skills

In early 2020, the OECD published a report on jobs for the future and 21st-century skills such as creative thinking, problem solving, media literacy and good citizenship. In this report, the organisation concluded that 15-year-olds still too often choose traditional professions and that more attention must be paid to the jobs of the future and the development of appropriate skills in education.

The stories of our former students prove that connecting with a wide range of options at a young age while building a pallet of skills that will help them forward in the future lays a solid foundation for fulfilling the jobs for the future.

Those 21st-century skills are woven into our programs. Because even if someone chooses a ‘traditional’ profession of, say, a doctor, it is precisely these developed skills that enable someone to practice this (and any other) profession in a rapidly changing and digitising society.

‘The weekend school meant for me: learning outside the traditional guidelines, attention to new skills and extra care for young people who want to get more out of themselves. It formed me into the person I am today. The fact that presenting became my hobby came from the ambassador training, where I was given the opportunity to train in this. The fact that I am now studying Business Administration at Nyenrode is because I gave a presentation there during an event organised by the weekend school. I am therefore still closely involved with the foundation and hope that I can share my experiences with the next generation of children.’

Elyas Razawi, former student IMC Weekendschool Nijmegen

Life skills

Through the meetings with guest teachers, the students develop personal skills such as presenting themselves, collaborating, thinking critically and asking questions. These are valuable skills with which they can find their place in society, regardless of their future career choice.
We offer four educational programmes

**IMC Weekendschool**

Students of IMC Weekendschool can get busy every Sunday for three years at one of the ten locations. The three-year curriculum consists of approximately fifteen subjects (including medicine, law, entrepreneurship, astronomy, politics and visual arts). Each location has its own sponsors, guest teachers from various professional groups and many other volunteers, who together enable hundreds of students to enjoy weekly weekend school education.

**IMC Basis**

The system change in education that the foundation aims to achieve is taking shape through IMC Basis. At a growing number of primary schools, pupils in groups 7 and 8 are taught, for two years, during school hours by enthusiastic guest teachers. The approach does not differ from the educational philosophy of the weekend school and offers a broad, society-oriented curriculum. The programme is recommended and supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science and the Education Inspectorate.

**IMC on Tour**

With IMC on Tour, the foundation offers a lesson variant at eleven locations, specially developed for newcomer children, i.e. children who are registered with a Dutch municipality and (in most cases) have just obtained their residence status. The Dutch is attuned to the language level of the students. The subjects are designed visually and interactively so that there is sufficient opportunity for all students to participate.

**IMC Alumni**

When students have received their diploma, they are actually only at the beginning of all the major selection processes in their school and work career. Via IMC Alumni, we offer, together with our extensive network, our former students numerous opportunities to develop further by means of practical support such as study counselling, workshops, master classes, or help with finding internships or work.
You can find our programs here

IMC on Tour
1. Amersfoort
2. Amsterdam
3. Breda
4. Deventer
5. Haarlem
6. Hilversum
7. Rotterdam
8. Schiedam
9. Sittard
10. Utrecht
11. Zaandam

IMC Weekendschool
1. Amsterdam Noord
2. Amsterdam West
3. Amsterdam Zuidoost
4. Den Haag
5. Groningen
6. Nijmegen
7. Rotterdam Delfshaven
8. Rotterdam Zuid
9. Tilburg
10. Utrecht

IMC on Tour
1. Almere
2. Amersfoort
3. Amsterdam (2x)
4. Assen
5. Barneveld
6. Den Bosch (2x)
7. Deventer (2x)
8. Drachten
9. Gemert
10. Goirle
11. Groningen
12. Heerlen (4x)
13. Hilversum
14. Hoensbroek
15. Kerkrade
16. Leiden
17. Lelystad
18. Moerdijk
19. Oss
20. Roermond (2x)
21. Rotterdam (2x)
22. Sittard
23. Tilburg (2x)
24. Uithoorn
25. Vlissingen
26. Weert
27. Winschoten
28. Zaltbommel
Comparative research has shown that weekend school children are more informed about professions and are better able to say why they want to pursue a particular career.
Social impact

Stichting IMC Weekendschool is based on an innovative educational philosophy and intervention. To demonstrate how our educational ideals and objectives are achieved, research is of great value. Previous comparative studies into the self-confidence, future prospects and social cohesion in weekend school children have shown that they are better informed about professions and are better able to say why they want to pursue a particular career.

It also showed that the children are better able to identify their own qualities. These individual effects also translate to a social level: motivated, engaged citizens have important positive effects on society, both economically and socially. Consider, for example, combating class division in society and promoting the integration of newcomer groups.

Consultancy firms Strategy & (part of PwC) and Sinzer (consultancy firm for impact measurements) have committed themselves for the long term to effect and impact studies into our educational concept. Effects of this intervention on students are also the subject of a long-term scientific study (2018-2022), carried out by the University of Amsterdam and Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, as part of the ‘Equal opportunities for a diverse youth’ programme of the National Science Agenda (NWA). The Stichting IMC Weekendschool works through its core activities to bring an above-average number (nine out of seventeen) of UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) closer, namely:

1. No poverty
2. Good health and well-being
3. Quality education
4. Gender equality
5. Decent work and economic growth
6. Primary education
7. Gender equality
8. Decent work and economic growth
9. Quality education
10. Reducing inequality
11. Sustainable cities and communities
12. Peace, justice and strong institutions
13. Partnership for the goals
14. Life on land
15. Life below water
16. Life on land
17. Partnership for the goals

‘We cannot achieve our social goals without partners with know-how and the right expertise. We are pleased that we can contribute to society through IMC Weekendschool’

Kirsten Ottens,
ING Nederland Fonds
Are you our new partner?

Stichting IMC Weekendschool cannot exist without the assistance and commitment of companies, organisations and funds that support us with donations, locations, services and advice. Where it applies that: partnerships are tailored connections. Because every partner is unique, and we would like to offer every partner that wants to contribute something to the realisation of our objectives an opportunity to do so.

Partners can contribute at the foundation level or choose to support one of our programs or locations.

A class, school year, subject or entire establishment can be sponsored at the weekend schools. At IMC Basis and IMC on Tour, you can also commit to a class, a subject or (multiple) location(s), where IMC Basis mainly focuses on local support and involvement.

For former students who are active at IMC Alumni, a partnership can mean supporting an event or training but can also result in personal collaboration, by facilitating internships or giving workshops, for example.

We also warmly welcome partners who want to be involved in the design of our teaching programs. The subject knowledge and expertise from funds or the business community can be easily integrated into the curriculum and makes the partnership more tangible. For example, there are law firms where employees teach our Law course and then re-enact a case together in court, architects or contractors who take students to a construction site, port authorities where employees teach about logistics and take the students on an excursion around the port.

We are convinced that we will arrive at a good fit and together can contribute to equality of opportunity for our students!

‘Every time I come back from class days inspired. I also learn a lot from it myself. The children ask questions that you normally don't get. I find that very inspiring and refreshing.’

Casper ten Kate, employee of consultancy company Kearney
Even more reasons to support us

Partners and volunteers widen their own horizons

The cooperation between our students and the guest teachers and counsellors often creates a nice synergy and exchange. Partners who choose to actively participate in our programs discover that the classes are an enriching experience for them as well.

Former students remain involved

Pupils who have obtained their weekend school diploma keep in touch with each other, the Stichting IMC Weekendschool, guest teachers and partners through the former-student network IMC Alumni. They gain access to in-depth master classes and training courses and use the network to find internships and study guidance. In addition, our alumni are increasingly guest teachers at IMC Weekendschool. In this way they, form inspiring examples for the younger generations.

Our teaching method has a long-term impact

Stichting IMC Weekendschool offers a multi-year and balanced programme to students and alumni. This gives them the time and space they need to develop their experiences and competences optimally and continuously. This makes our concept distinctive.

Backpack full of skills and professions

1. Hours of inspiration per student up to the diploma
2. Meetings with guest teachers
3. Contacts with businesses and companies

IMC Weekendschool
IMC Basis
IMC on Tour

‘IMC Weekendschool succeeds in providing children from disadvantaged neighbourhoods with the skills, values and courage they need to play a proud and valuable role in our society. Every weekend school student narrows the performance gap in education.’

Ahmed Aboutaleb, Mayor of Rotterdam and ambassador of IMC Weekendschool
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**Social Media**
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Twitter: @weekendschool
Instagram: imcweekendschool
Facebook: imcweekendschool

Stichting IMC Weekendschool is registered as a Public Benefit Organisation (ANBI). This makes donations tax-deductible. The foundation also has a quality mark from the CBF, the charity sector regulator. The foundation meets the strict quality requirements of this regulator in the field of professionalism and transparency.