



# Merger newsletter

Summary

28-01-2021

Dear parents and carers of the children at Dr. Ariëns Elementary School and Holthuizen Elementary School,

As of the school year 2021/2022, Holthuizen Elementary School and Dr. Ariëns Elementary School will continue as one merged school. Behind the scenes, the preparations for the merger are in full swing. In recent months, we have carried out a preliminary assessment of the merger process. The preliminary assessment has now been completed and has produced a merger process plan. This merger plan focuses on the formal aspects of the merger and the preparations required for a good start in the school year 2021/2022. We have formed a steering group to ensure that both processes run well, and to monitor progress. In addition to the steering group, there are six working groups, consisting of employees who will focus on the preparations for the new school year.

Now that the preliminary assessment and the plan have been completed, we can give you a look at the timeline of the merger process. As the process progresses, we will add more details to the timeline.

January

- 13 January: start of the merger process with the team members of both schools

February

- Start of the clean-up at Dr. Ariëns Elementary School.
- 2 February: working groups start working on their sub-tasks.
- 19 February: working groups start working on their sub-tasks.

March

- Parental consultation

April

- 2 April: working groups start working on their sub-tasks.
- The Board of the Keender Foundation asks the Supervisory Board for approval for the proposed merger decision.
- The Board of the Keender Foundation asks the Boards of Representatives of both schools for approval for the proposed merger decision.

May

- The Board of the Keender Foundation asks the Supervisory Board for approval for the final merger decision.
- 25 May: working groups start working on their sub-tasks.

June

- Start of the relocation to Holthuizen Elementary School

July

- Farewell ceremony at the Dr. Ariëns Elementary School location.
- End of the school year 2020/2021.

August

- Start of the school year 2021/2022 as a merged school in the building of Holthuizen Elementary School.

## **Merger school temporary housing**

From the school year 2021/2022, Holthuizen Elementary School and Dr. Ariëns Elementary School will continue together as a merged school. This means that all pupils will be taught in the current Holthuizen Elementary School building until the new school building is completed. The group layout for this period is currently being determined by the management teams, team members and internal supervisors.

As far as road safety in the vicinity of Holthuizen Elementary School is concerned, the Keender Foundation will work with the municipality to investigate how traffic flows can be optimised.

## **The new school building**

The municipality of Haaksbergen is currently building a new school building for the merger school at the current location of the Dr. Ariëns Elementary School. The size of the building is based on the prognosis of 310 pupils. The municipality of Haaksbergen will review the options for a new gym at the new school building.

The municipality of Haaksbergen is not funding additional spaces/buildings for childcare and social organisations in/near the new school building. If childcare organisations can finance these facilities themselves and can guarantee the funding of the additional costs, the municipality is open to review the possibilities for childcare within the new school building. The Keender Foundation is currently discussing this with Human Kind, the organisation that presently offers childcare in the Holthuizen Elementary School building.

As far as road safety in the vicinity of the new school building is concerned, the Keender Foundation will work with the municipality to investigate how traffic flows can be optimised.

The Keender Foundation aims to open the new school building in 2023.

With kind regards,

Henri Verheij, interim Principal at Dr. Ariëns Elementary School  
Mirjam Haverkate, acting Principal at Holthuizen Elementary School

If you have any questions about the merger of Dr. Ariëns Elementary School and Holthuizen Elementary School, please check the FAQs under the merger button ('fusie') on the school website. If the FAQs do not answer your question, you can email your question to [VragenFusieschoolAriensHolthuizen@keender.nl](mailto:VragenFusieschoolAriensHolthuizen@keender.nl). We will ensure a quick and careful response.

