

## Pascal College Overview

### **Pascal College within the Zaam Organisation for Education**

#### **Introduction**

Since October 2012 the Pascal College in Zaandam has been part of Zaam, an organisation for secondary education, Located in Amsterdam.

With over 1100 employees, and 13,000 students in secondary education, Zaam provides basic support and services for 24 schools in the province of Northern Holland. Twenty-one of them are housed in Amsterdam. Each school has its own specific educational goals, history, demographic characteristics, means of communication and website. For Pascal College in Zaandam, kindly see [www.pascalcollege.nl](http://www.pascalcollege.nl)

#### **More Than Just an Education**

The Zaam Organisation for Education is all about connecting people, We share our Christian view on life as well as our mission to be innovative and to offer our students more than just an education that is aimed at a professional career.

We want to help (young) people to find their place in society through education that encourages participation. In our philosophy of education, attending to each student's personal development and role within the (European) social community is of the utmost importance: social awareness is an important aim! We also want to encourage emancipation, diversity and promote dialogue between people from different religious, humanistic and cultural backgrounds. Everyone is welcomed at our schools, regardless of their religion, sexual preference or cultural background.

#### **Identity**

The Zaam Organisation has adopted the Christian educational tradition as the basis for education for all their schools. We expect all of our students as well as our staff to respect our Christian heritage, just as we respect and welcome students and their parents who adhere to a different (religious) view. The school's mission is formulated in such a way that all concerned may identify with its aims. Hence, Religious Education is a natural part of our curriculum.

### **School Plan of Pascal College Zaandam 2014-2018**

#### **The Pascal College Mission**

Pascal College is a popular, Christian school in Zaandam and surroundings. Point of focus is the student and his / her talents. Good education should make a pupil inquisitive and prepare him/ her for participating in our (internationally oriented) society.

The school has a strong focus on performance. Students are able to excel and achieve their true potential. Employees and students strive to learn together and both parties are responsible for each other's well-being. School time at Pascal College should be among the most memorable times that a student has in her / his life.

Pascal College and the organisation which it is a part of are committed to the Christian message of faith, hope and love, which we express through our five Principles of Humanity, Tolerance,

Stewardship, Service and Integrity. As educators, and as role models, we are also responsible for keeping this promise.

The students are at the heart of the Pascal College. Our teachers know their students and both can benefit from learning together and helping each other in an atmosphere of mutual cooperation, something that we see as both natural and extremely important.

*Our staff contribute professionally in helping teens and young adults live their lives in a meaningful way.*

We are very conscious of the fact that no man is an island, since all of our actions have social and moral consequences. After all, we as humans are part of society and we also need each other.

*Our staff and students therefore feel responsible for each other and for their environment, which helps create a safe climate for learning and socialising. Respect, social commitment and care for a sustainable environment for learning, all have our continuous attention.*

Pascal College aims to provide education of a high standard, for Gymnasium, Atheneum and Havo. We choose to focus on performance, while also complying to the national guidelines for graduation within the set limits of time.

*We also try to give our students ample opportunity for developing their own talents.*

### **The Characteristics of our Educational Philosophy**

- Pascal College offers education that takes into account individual differences as we are well aware of the fact that “the average student” does not exist. Each student has his or her own ways of learning, his or her own talents to develop.
- We provide a solid education for developing knowledge and learning skills, motivating our students to aim for above-average achievement. The school and its teachers decide on the study material that will be used and then select the most suitable way of teaching it.
- We stimulate our students’ curiosity by offering them a variety of work-forms and assignments that will invite and inspire them to look into a subject more deeply, thereby helping them to discover and develop talents they may not yet know they possess. We provide education in an internationally oriented setting, as we are an ELOS school.
- We prepare our students to become self-assured, socially capable and morally responsible members of our European society. We want them to develop a good sense of social and international awareness, and to be fully equipped when finishing their education with us to work either independently or as members of a team. Whichever proves to be the case, we want them to be able to perform well!
- We are a lively, energetic school, as our diverse sporting activities and social, creative, multicultural and international activities can testify!