

ROTTERDAM PROJECT: AREAS FOR PRIVATE STUDY

1. The project team:

Wilma Boere, Willeke Kreft, Kelly Letterman and Lynette Wakker as students.
Rob van Efferen (teacher in flower decorations) Ton van Bostelen (vice-principal) and Henk Sanders (teacher in animal care and coordinator).

2. Starting point

We started in 2004 -2005 with Natural Learning in our college. In this way of teaching there is a lot of freedom for the students; they can make a lot of decisions by themselves.

We should need several places for private study of the students.

In the same time we started with EPIDORGE. We all (students and staff involved in Epidorge) made the decision to check out in witch way we could create these places.

The timetable of the students is: college for 3 days and 2 days stage. For the time being in college the timetable starts at 8.30. and ends at 14.00 h.

It means for our college that students will arrive at about 8.00 h and leave college about 14.00 h.

In this time they follow workshops or they will practice in animal care, flower decoration or gardening.

During the time spent in college they need time for private study, not only in a computer room or the **O** (pen) **S** (pace) **E** (area). (OLC in Dutch).

The students of Epidorge started to collect information of all other students to check what their expectations are to create places for private study.

They would like:

- to have places where they could stay with a few persons to study
- to share information
- to check for information etc.

3. Process, objectives and finalities

The students knew that for Natural Learning we should rebuild places in college. They (students of the Epidorge team) suggested, after seeing the plans of the management team, to contact the other students.

They had several meetings with the other students to discuss all plans. Finally they give several suggestions to the management team:

- to rebuild the places for lockers into places for private study
- to rebuild some storerooms

These plans are realised at this moment.

Now the students have seen that their suggestions are realised they took the initiative to change more places in college. The next place for them is the OLC.

The next step is:

- to rebuild
- to change the timetable of opening hours
- to change the responsibility
- and to redecorate the OLC.

Methodology

The project team intends to meet every two or three weeks. In the plans that are realised at this moment they gave only suggestions to the staff. In the new plans, they have to do a lot more, like:

- learning projecting
- fill their portfolio
- to stay sometimes after college time for meetings
- to have formal discussions with both students and teachers
- give the opinion of all students and not of your own

Planning of this year

At the moment (**April, May**) we have a try out:

- to change the timetable of opening hours
- to change the responsibility during a few hours a week.

In **May** students are preparing both students and staff:

- an exposure of changes already made
- an exposure of Bourg
- creating a project for redecoration

June: Exposure