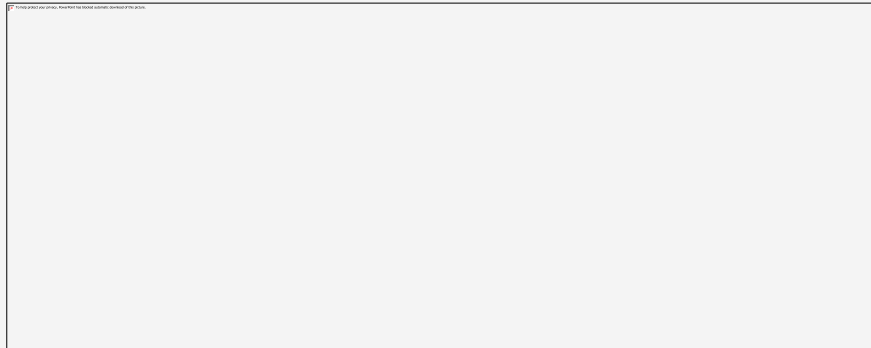




GO! Within the Flemish educational landscape

Jens Vermeersch

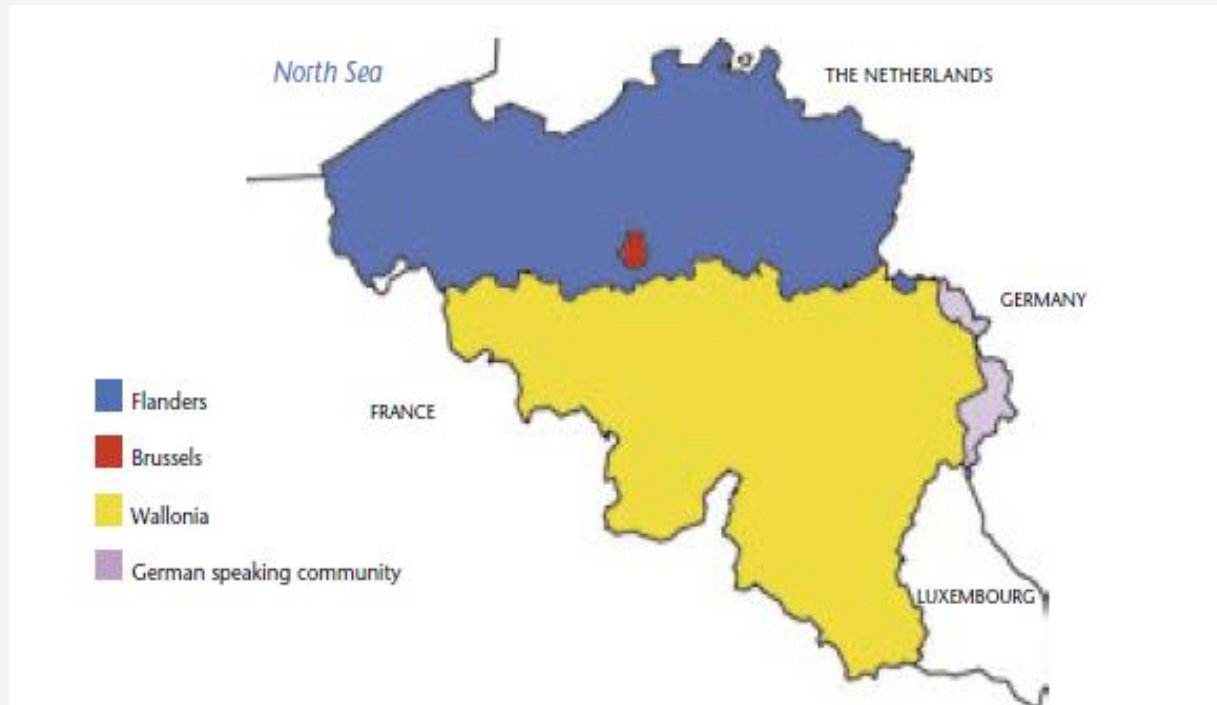
6th July 2021



Belgium – Flemish community

- Belgium is a very complicated country.
- Belgium is a federal state.
- 3 communities (language based) + 3 regions (territorial)
- 6 governments for 10 million inhabitants.
- There are 3 official languages: Dutch, French and German.
- We have 3 educational systems with 3 different ministers of education.
- There is no minister of education on the central level.
- Compulsory education from 5 till 18

Belgium - Flanders



A complicated country: the networks

- In Flanders education is organised by networks.
- Networks can be privately owned or belong to a public authority.
- Basically there are 4 major networks:
 - the catholic network (owned by congregations, dioceses, parishes,)
 - the network of the Flemish community (GO!)
 - the network of the provinces
 - the network of the local authorities (cities, municipalities, ...)



A complicated country: autonomy vs. controle

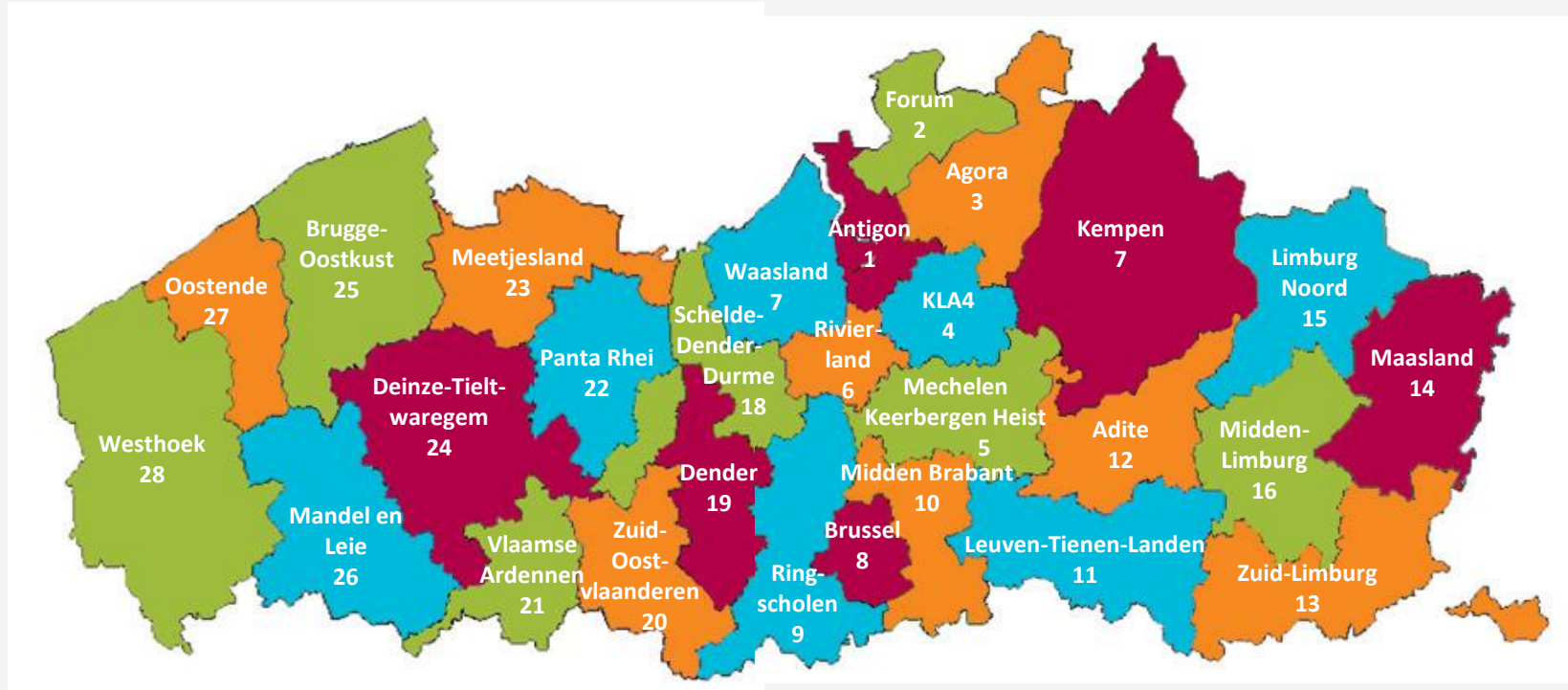
- The autonomy of local schools has become one of the key principles of the Flemish educational organization.
- But the autonomy only operates within certain bounds.
- The ministry defines the general rules and the financial means (buildings, wages,...).
- The networks determine the pedagogical project and provide services for schools (legal service, pedagogical counseling,...).



What is GO! ?

- GO! is the public school network of the Flemish community
- The network is governed on two levels:
 - the central level
 - the level of 26 local boards
- Our network organises
 - 363 primary schools, 217 secondary schools, 27 schools for adult education, 58 schools for children with special needs, 15 academies for art education (part time)
 - Approximately 800 educational institutions
 - Approximately 225,000 pupils and 100,000 course participants
 - 18 % of the total amount of students in Flanders and Brussels
 - Approximately 32,000 staff members

26 schoolgroups

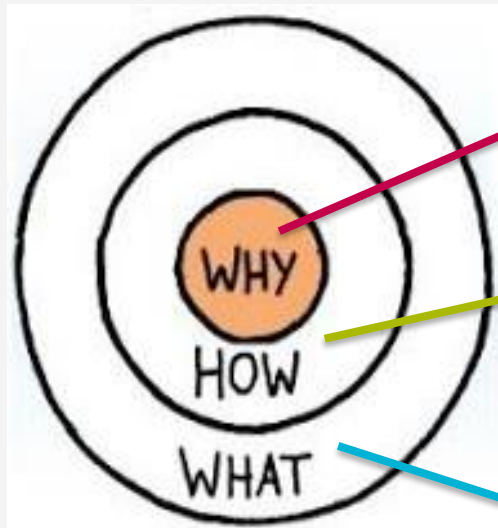


GO!

- Pedagogical service
 - Pedagogical support
 - Curriculum development
 - In-service training
- Central support , policy making, strategy 2030
- Prevention service



Our strategic framework



OUR MISSION / OUR PPGO!

*Learning to live together
Equal educational
opportunities
Quality*

POLAR VISION & AMBITIONS

*The favourite learning
community, personalised for
everyone, mirror and building
block of society*

MISSION / CORE TASKS

Offering quality education

**Everyone's
favourite
personalised
learning
community,
mirror and
building block of
society**





5 AMBITIONS

We form a learning community, also independent of place & time

We are gatekeeper for education and goalkeeper for society

We are building an ecosystem for lifelong learning

We are agile in thinking and acting

We take the future into our hands and carry it out

Programmes '20-'22

Programme 4

Digitisation

Digital learning place,
digital working
environment,
applications, tools...

Programme 5

Profiling

employer branding



The favourite
learning community -
the learner at the
centre

Programme 1

New role for the
education professional

professionalisation

Personalized
learning together

Programme 2

Conceptualisation,
tools, inspiration,
knowledge
sharing, good
practices...

School as
a concept

Quality
for all

Programme 3

data & analysis

The pedagogical services within the framework of education 1

- Every mayor educational network has its own pedagogical service
- The key assignments of all these pedagogical services are ordained in the Decree on the Quality of education (2009)
- Some of the main key assignments are:
 - support schools by realising their pedagogical project
 - support schools to enhance the quality of education
 - support schools after audit by the inspection
 - provide training for teachers and school leaders
 -
- Every pedagogical service determines how it will fulfil its key assignments and what kind of organisation it needs to do so

The pedagogical services within the framework of education 2

- Apart from their key assignments, all pedagogical services spend a lot of time in writing curricula for all the subjects that are taught at schools
- These curricula are based on the attainment targets (in Dutch: 'eindtermen' = final goals) defined by the Flemish Parliament



Quality

We are working with attainment targets

They are minimum goals for all pupils

There are attainment targets specific to subject areas (mathematics, Dutch, ...)

We also have cross-curricular attainment targets (such as learning how to learn and social skills).

For the pre-primary (nursery school) there are developmental objectives, these are skills a school must strive to develop in pupils, but they need not necessarily be attained.

Every 6 years the inspectors of our Departement of Education will do an external evaluation

Quality

Attainment target and development goals set by Flemish parliament, these are the basis for writing curricula

External evaluation: every 5 or 6 years a school is thoroughly checked by a team of inspectors based on OK **reference**

framework for quality in education:

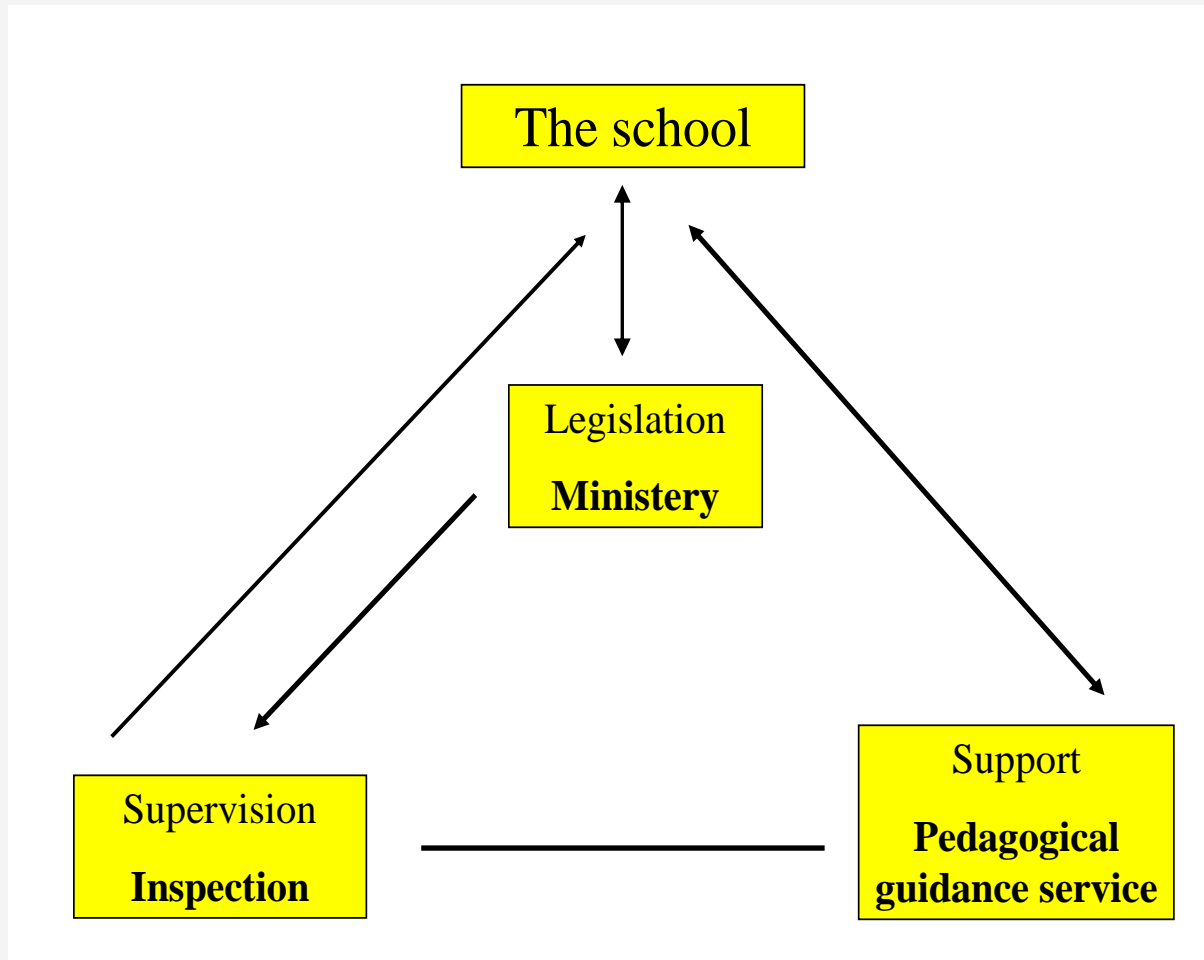
https://www.onderwijsinspectie.be/sites/default/files/atoms/files/OK_magazine_eng.pdf

Internal evaluation: schools are stimulated to use self-evaluation but without set rules

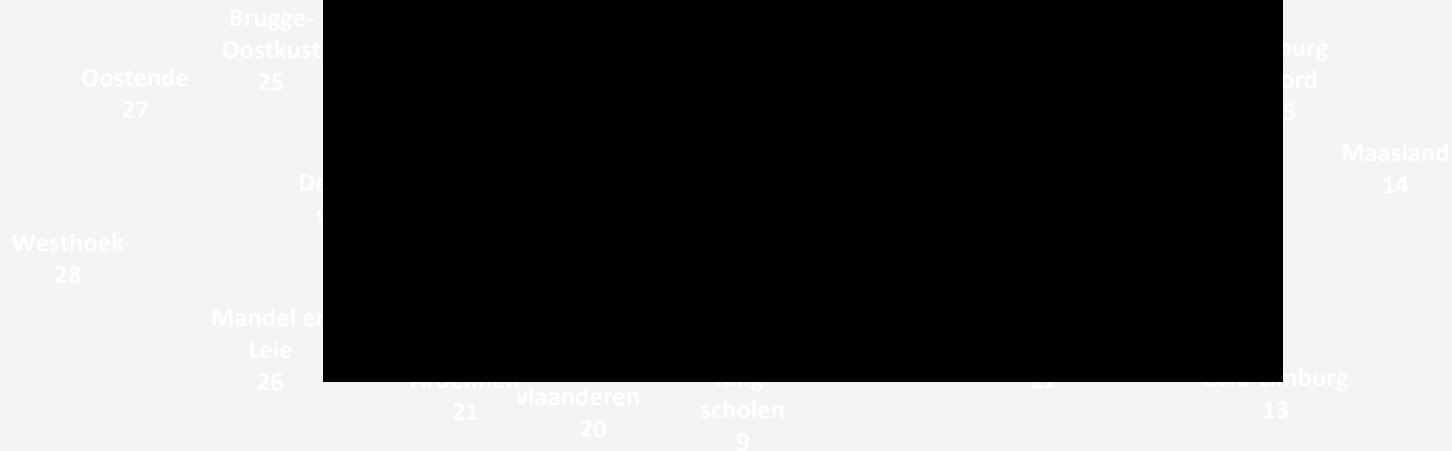
Pedagogical guidance service as a critical friend for schools and teachers

In-service training part of pedagogical guidance

Quality



The educational project of GO! - Learning to live together



Contact

Questions?

jens.vermeersch@g-o.be

GO! onderwijs van de Vlaamse Gemeenschap

NeO - Internationalisation

Willebroekkaai 36 - B-1000 Brussel - Belgium

tel. +32 2 790 95 98



jensvermeersch

Go! **Europa**

