



SINT-JANSHOF MECHELEN

THREE LEVELS AND
A LOT OF TALENTS
UNITED IN ONE SCHOOL



SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION

FOR STUDENTS WITH
A MILD, MODERATE AND SEVERE
MENTAL RETARDATION



ENTRANCE

TO SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION IN BELGIUM

- To have access to special needs education in Belgium, the following is required:
 - The student needs a special report for special needs education.
 - The report has to be written by an agency for student counseling.
 - In the report it has to be clear that it's impossible for regular education to do all the necessary adaptations the student needs in education.

OUR STUDENTS

Youngsters from 13 until 21 years old



Level one

Severe mental disability

Students of level one have a severe mental disability. Some of the students also have autism. Most of the students with autism are integrated in the classes.

A small group of students with autism receives a special program in a separate class. We call it Club 9.



Level two

Moderate mental disability

Students of level two have a moderate mental disability. Some of the students also have autism. The students with autism are integrated in the classes.

We don't have a separate class for students with autism, but we do some special adaptations if needed.



Level three

Mild mental disability

Students of level three have a mild mental disability. Some of the students also have autism. The students with autism are integrated in the classes.

As in level two, we don't have a separate class for students with autism. We do some adaptations if needed.

SCHOOL POPULATION

Together we are one school



Students

- 254 students are following classes in our school
 - Level 1: 65
 - Club9: 6
 - Level 2: 61
 - Level 3: 122

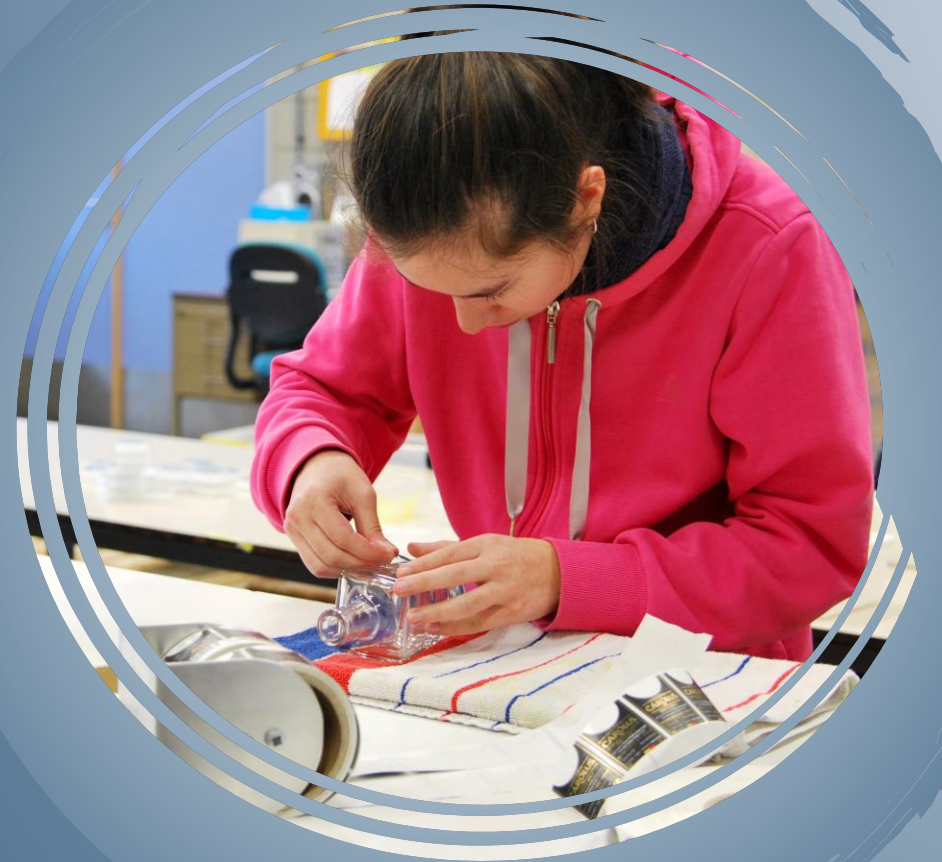


Staff

- 94 staff members are working in our school
 - Headmaster
 - Coordination staff
 - Support staff
 - Teachers
 - Paramedics
 - Bus mentors
 - Cleaning staff

DIFFERENCES WITH REGULAR EDUCATION

THERE ARE A LOT OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
REGULAR AND SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION



Differences with regular education

Regular education

- Examinations
 - Homework and tests
 - A lot of different school subjects
-
- Compulsory learning outcomes



Special needs education

- Permanent evaluation, no real examinations
- No homework and tests
- Only a few separate school subjects, most of the time working in projects.
 - General and social education
 - Vocational training
- Development goals and training profiles



Differences with regular education

Regular education

- Passing a schoolyear or not



Special needs education

- Extension of the study duration
- Adjusted pace
- Smaller groups
- Individual action plan for students
- Individual programs for students
- Customized support and care
- Collaboration with external services like social support, employment support, ...



Differences with regular education

Regular education

- Staff members:
 - Headmaster
 - Coordination staff
 - Teachers
 - Support staff
 - Student counseling
 - Support network



Special needs education

- Staff members:
 - Headmaster
 - Coordination staff
 - Teachers
 - Support staff
 - Student counseling
 - Support network
 - Paramedical staff
 - Speech therapist
 - Fysical therapist
 - Nurse





LEVEL 1

STUDENTS WITH A SEVERE MENTAL
DISABILITY SOMETIMES WITH AUTISM



LEVEL 1

- Preparation for a later life at home, in a day-care centre or a sheltered housing facility
- Some students work voluntary in a sheltered working environment

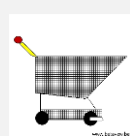
LEVEL 1

Home

Self-reliance, housekeeping, shopping, cooking, timekeeping social daily life, selfcare,....



shoppinglist



shopping



cooking



setting the table

Work

Workshops : media, working, maintenance, gardening, supervised work, small tasks, ...



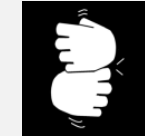
media



laundry



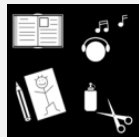
workshops



supervised work

Free time

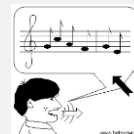
Music, drama and art, hobbies, games, swimming, snoezelen,...



hobbies



sports



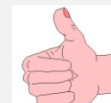
music



games

General attitude

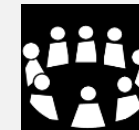
Social training and relations, dealing with feelings, workattitude,...



Nice work!



friends



circle



emotional well-being





- Multi-day excursion every two years to the forest, the sea, ...
- Social and society training and jobcoaching
- Hobbies
- Adult activity: intensive preparation for the later life in a daycare centre and a personal plan for future

IMPORTANT

ACTIVITIES
IN LEVEL 1



CLUB 9

STUDENTS WITH AUTISM THAT
FOLLOW AN INDIVIDUAL PROGRAM



CLUB₉

- Students with autism and emotional problems that don't fit in the regular classes and need an individual program
- A program with a lot of structure, more cognitive challenges and extra ASS support
- A program without pressure, time to rest and cool down and a lot of proximity

CLUB 9



- Social skills training
- Cognitive challenges
- Teaching 3 big themes:
 - Life
 - Work
 - Free-time
- Individual program
 - Adapting program to the age and the cognitive possibilities
- Jobcoaching
 - Green service
 - Museum
 - Butchery
 - Primary school
 - Auto mechanic
 - Ice skating company

CLUB 9



- Structure and clearness
 - Working with dayschemes every 20 minutes
- Individual support for every student
 - Every student has a weekly meeting with his coach
- Working on a caring farm
- Preparation for a life with as much independency as possible
- Very functional program
 - Shopping and cooking
 - Cleaning and doing the laundry
 - Using public transport
 - Using public services: bank transactions, ...



- Multi-day excursion every two years to the forest, the sea, ...
- Jobcoaching
- Hobbies

IMPORTANT

ACTIVITIES
IN CLUB9



LEVEL 2

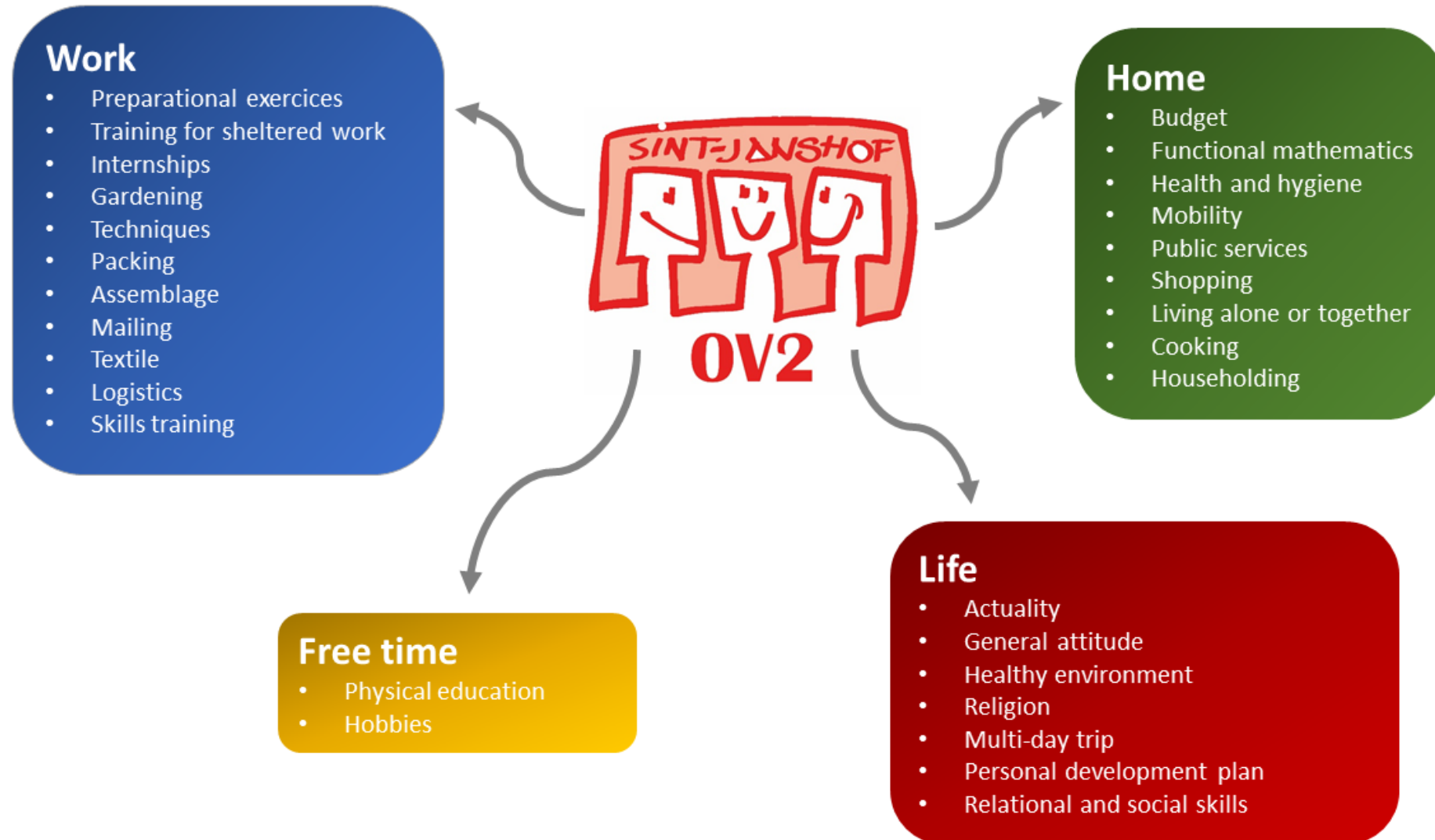
STUDENTS WITH A MODERATE
MENTAL DISABILITY SOMETIMES WITH
AUTISM



LEVEL 2

- Preparation for a paid job in a sheltered workplace or the regular market with some extra support
- General and social education in a combination with job training

LEVEL2





- Multi-day excursion every two years
- Preparation for later living with some support
- Hobbies
- Internship in group
- Individual internships
- Personal development plan

IMPORTANT

ACTIVITIES
IN LEVEL 2



LEVEL 3

STUDENTS WITH A MILD MENTAL
DISABILITY SOMETIMES WITH AUTISM



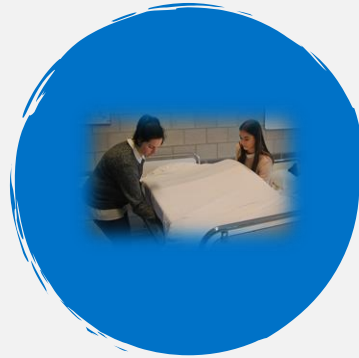
LEVEL 3

- Preparation for a paid job in regular employment
- General and social education in a combination with job training
- If possible, making the switch to regular education



Shop assistant

Working in supermarkets and bigger shops



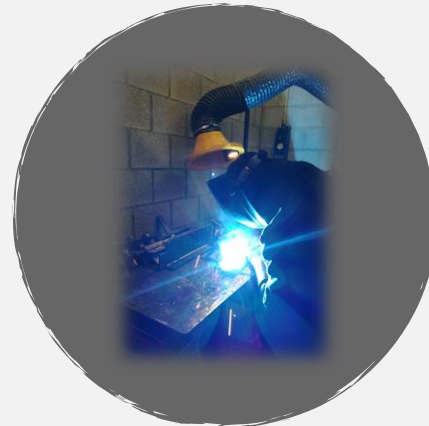
Assistant in health care

Support tasks in hospitals and homes for elder people



Woodworker

Working in a wood factory



Welder

Working in a welding factory

LEVEL 3

4 study fields



- Multi-day excursion every two years
- First year of exploration the different study fields
- Project about choosing a study field after the first year
- Theoretic driving license lessons
- Internship in group
- Individual internships
- Applying for a job

IMPORTANT

ACTIVITIES
IN LEVEL 3

CHALLENGES

CHALLENGES WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH AND
ACTIONS WE ARE WORKING ON



Our challenges



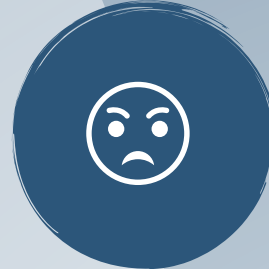
Early school leaving

We have to deal with motivation problems of our students and find ways to keep them at school and learn a profession.



Regular education

We have to work together with regular education to make the switch easier for the students.



Behaviour

We experience more and more with severe behavioural problems and have to make our staff stronger to deal with this behaviour.



Individual programs

More and more students need an individual program because of specific problems in their possibilities and behaviour



Support services

We have to build up a network of external services to work with for time-out, support, individual programs.



THANKS!

LET'S HAVE A TOUR AT THE SCHOOL AND
TAKE A LOOK IN OUR CLASSES