



## Vertaling naar het Engels

### Four lines of force of the M Decree

The M Decree regulates how Flemish education deals with pupils who cannot easily follow classes at a regular school due to an impairment, disorder or disability.

#### 1. First regular education, then special education

If a child isn't able to keep up at school, the most important question is: what does this child need in order to learn? Teachers mustn't blindly focus on the question: what's wrong with this child?

A child with an impairment, disorder or disability remains in the first place in regular education. Every regular school must develop a far-reaching care policy and search for reasonable adaptations. And if that doesn't help? Then the child can go to special education.

#### 2. Right to reasonable adaptations

The regular school is obliged to look into which reasonable adaptations are possible.

Reasonable adaptations are things such as longer testing times, verbal feedback instead of numbers or resting times during the day.

They also include technical means such as a laptop with reading software or an adapted chair.

The school can also make dispensations, i.e. substitute parts of the curriculum by something equivalent. Or make remedies, which means offering extra individual teaching help.

The parents and the "Centrum voor Leerlingenbegeleiding" (CLB; Pupil Guidance Centre) search, together with the regular school, for which adaptations are reasonable.

#### 3. Right to registration in a regular school

Every child has the right to register in a regular school. Therefore, the school may not refuse any pupil because he or she needs adapted measures or cannot cope with the regular curriculum.

#### 4. New admission conditions for special education

A child can only go to special education with a report from the CLB. The CLB first looks to see whether all possible measures have been taken in the regular school before referring the pupil on to special education.

Referral to a special school solely upon the basis of a child's social background (underprivileged, family's language is different) is not allowed.

Nothing changes for pupils who are already in special education. They can remain in the type of education where they currently are.

### Want to know more about the M decree?

Go to [www.onderwijs.vlaanderen.be](http://www.onderwijs.vlaanderen.be).

Want to learn Dutch? Look for an adult education facility in your neighbourhood. Visit [www.huizenvanhetnederlands.be](http://www.huizenvanhetnederlands.be), or ask at your child's school.