

BTEC International Centre of the Year

IVS Alliance

Netherlands



Our BTEC International Centre winner is a small but thriving community for BTEC in the Netherlands, with over 20 years of collective experience in delivering international, bilingual, vocational education.

The IVS Alliance is a group of six Dutch BTEC colleges that work together for the advancement of their learners and their tutors. It is a small but thriving community for BTEC in the Netherlands, with over 20 years of collective experience. Inside the classroom BTECs are taught alongside the Dutch equivalent diploma and so learners and tutors consistently go above and beyond to meet the qualification requirements in a dual-certification system.

Additionally, all IVS Alliance courses form part of a bilingual programme of learning, where BTEC is delivered in English and the Dutch diplomas taught in Dutch, providing learners with a broad range of content knowledge and highly effective communication skills. Colleges deliver BTEC over the course of three years, with compulsory work placements during the second and final years amounting to over 1,200 hours of industry placement outside the classroom.

Many learners choose Dutch companies for their internships, but those who are confident in their language skills are also able to complete placements in the UK, Ireland, Belgium, Germany and Spain. Some colleges make it compulsory to do the final year placement abroad, which is a real survival challenge for some students!

IVS Alliance learners and tutors are internationally minded, bilingually gifted and career-focused, with over 95% of its graduates going directly onto higher education courses or into employment.

Many IVS Alliance Alumni have gone on to start their own business, some whilst still on their BTEC course! From day one learners are encouraged to play an active role in their own education by participating in groupwork and intercollegiate projects, national competitions such as Student Company and in the organisation of annual events such as their Alliance Day.

This college puts BTEC - and excellence - right at the heart of everything they do. Their strong links with employers, local authorities and other stakeholders and excellent learner engagement and experience makes them our top BTEC Centre in 2021.