



Water is Life Conference 2026 Information Pack 2

Dear friends of Water is Life,

Preparations for the international Water is Life Conference 2026 are progressing rapidly, and we are excited to share the next phase of information with you. This second information pack provides essential details for all participants, including a preliminary overview of the conference programme and important instructions regarding the formal registration process.

The 2026 edition of the Water is Life Conference will bring students and teachers from across the globe together in person, offering a unique opportunity to collaborate, learn, and engage around one of the most urgent issues of our time: water, climate and sustainability.

Water is Life Schools Mission:

We live in a time of global environmental change, with water as both a vital resource and a growing concern. Every region faces its own challenges – from scarcity to pollution to rising sea levels. During this conference, young people from diverse backgrounds will share their insights, exchange ideas, and explore solutions together. Our aim is to foster international understanding, inspire action, and empower the next generation of changemakers.

We look forward to welcoming you to this memorable and meaningful experience in June 2026 at the Water is Life Conference hosted by Maurick College, The Netherlands.

This Information Pack 2 contains the following:

1. Draft version Conference Programme
2. Pre-registered schools
3. Timeline
4. Full registration Procedure
5. Financial Information
6. Accommodation
7. Travel Information
8. FAQs

Appendix:

- WiL Full Registration Form
- WiL Abstract Guidelines
- WiL Research Report Guidelines
- WiL Poster Guidelines
- WiL Conference Invoice

Pre-registered schools

1	d'Oultremont College	Netherlands
2	Liceo Antonio Rosmini	Italy
3	Dillmann-Gymnasium	Germany
4	Gulbenes novada vidusskola	Latvia
5	Mahidol Wittayanusorn School	Thailand
6	Oak Bay High School	Canada
7	Yaşar Acar Fen Lisesi	Turkye
8	Shibuya Senior High School	Japan
9	High School Attached to Wuhan University	China
10	Raffles Institution	Singapore
11	Center for Young Scientists	Indonesia
12	Waldschule Schwanewede	Germany
13	Makuhari Senior High School, Shibuya Kyoiku Gakuen	Japan
14	Maurick College	Netherlands
15	Colegio Claustro Moderno	Colombia
16	Detroit Country Day School	USA
17	Berufsbildende Schulen 3 Oldenburg	Germany
18	Jesuites Bellvitge	Spain
19	Vespucci College	Curacao
20	Virolai School	Spain
21	Beijing Chaoyao Kaiwen Academy	China
22	Gymnasium Beekvliet	Netherlands
23	Odulphus Lyceum	Netherlands
24	St-Jans Lyceum	Netherlands

Draft Version Conference Programme

	Activity
Sunday, June 7th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arrival (international) guests
Monday, June 8th	
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opening ceremony - Lecture by keynote speaker - Discussion with panel
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ice-breaking activities
Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barbecue
Tuesday, June 9th	
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lectures by keynote speakers - Presentations of research teams by students
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outdoor activities
Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students with host families
Wednesday, June 10th	
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excursions to water, climate and sustainability related projects
Afternoon	
Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teachers' dinner - Students with host families
Thursday, June 11th	
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lecture by keynote speaker
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excursions to various museums - Canal cruise through Amsterdam
Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students with host families
Friday, June 12th	
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshops - Poster presentations
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spare time / preparations for cultural presentations
Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cultural presentations - Closing ceremony - Party time gala
Saturday, June 13th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Departure guests

Timeline

April 2025	Information Pack 1
September 2025	Information Pack 2
October 10 th , 2025	Deadline Full registration
January, 2026	Information Pack 3
January 31 st , 2026	Deadline Payment Conference Fee
March 10 th , 2026	Deadline abstracts / Send Flight details
April, 2026	Publication of Abstracts on Website
May 10 th , 2026	Deadline research papers
June 7 th	Arrival of participants from abroad
June 8–12, 2026	Water is Life Conference
June 13 th , 2026	Departure of participants from abroad

Full registration Procedure

Registration Details

Deadline Full registration: October 10th

Conference fee: €200 per participant (students and teachers)

Registration is per school team, using the official registration form provided by the conference organisers. Each school may bring up to 6 students and up to 2 accompanying teachers or chaperones.

How to Register

Schools are asked to complete the full registration form as soon as possible after identifying their project teams. The form requires the names and details of all participants, both students and teachers, as well as information about the school and project(s). Please fill in our digital Microsoft Form. After filling in this digital form, please send us the signed paper form to confirm your registration by e-mail.

Go to:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/BefvBZamQC>

Or scan the QR below



Payment Instructions

A fee of €200 for each individual who will attend the Water is Life Conference 2026 is due by **January 31, 2026**. All fees must be wire transferred in 'Euros'.

Please identify the name of your school and reference 'Water is Life 2026' as part of the transfer. Use the international banking instructions attached to this Information Pack.

What's Included in the Conference Fee

The conference fee covers:

- All scheduled conference activities and workshops
- Meals during the conference programme (*Special dietary requirements can be accommodated upon request*).
- Local transportation between conference venues
- Excursions and cultural activities
- Transfers from Schiphol airport to school and back on the specified dates.

What's NOT included in the Conference Fee

- International travel to airport
- Bus or train travel to Maurick College for schools who don't fly
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Additional costs outside the conference programme
- Accommodation costs for teachers
- Personal travel money
- Housing, meals and transportation outside the conference programme
- Visa fee for entry into the European Union.

Accommodation

Students

Students will stay with host families. Together with their host student, they will commute to the conference venue, usually by bicycle, car, or public transport. Travel time will vary depending on the location of the host family, ranging from 5 to 30 minutes one way.

Host families will provide accommodation and meals. All our host families are well-prepared and eager to welcome their guests as part of the family, offering a safe, comfortable home environment.

The homestay period includes six nights, from the evening of **Sunday, June 7** to the morning of **Saturday, June 13 (departure)**. *It is possible for overseas travellers to arrive one day earlier on Saturday June 6th. Let us know if you wish to arrive earlier.*

If a student has any special needs or dietary requirements, the host family will be asked to accommodate these as best as possible. Please ensure that all relevant information is clearly indicated in the registration form.

Teachers

Accompanying teachers can stay in a nearby hotel 'Van der Valk Hotel Vught'. Please note that teachers are responsible for covering the cost of hotel and any meals that are not included in the official programme.

Please use the link provided to access the hotel's website and enter the designated code. This code confirms that your booking relates to one of the rooms provisionally reserved by the Water is Life organisation.

[Book your \(teachers\) hotel room here](#)

Use the following code while booking your hotel room: WATERISLIFE2026
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Travel Information

When and where should participants arrive and depart?

The Water is Life Conference 2026 will take place from Monday, June 8 to Friday, June 12. All participants are expected to arrive in the Netherlands on **Sunday, June 7** and depart on **Saturday, June 13**. Overseas travellers have the option to arrive one day earlier. This allows students and staff time to rest and settle in before the official start of the programme.

Participants should fly into **Amsterdam Schiphol Airport**. Maurick College will organise transportation from the airport to the school on Sunday, June 7, and back to the airport on Saturday, June 13.

What if participants plan to arrive earlier or leave later?

If participants wish to arrive before June 7 or leave after June 13, they must make their **own arrangements** for accommodation and airport transport. In such cases, host families are **not** expected to provide lodging or transportation outside the official conference dates. Participants choosing to extend their stay should book a hotel and organise their own travel to and from the airport.

Please make sure to clearly communicate any deviation from the official arrival and departure schedule to the conference organisers in advance.

Do we need a VISA to visit The Netherlands?

This depends on your nationality.

Participants are responsible for checking whether they require a visa to enter the Netherlands or the Schengen Area. Please consult the official website of the Dutch government for up-to-date visa information and entry requirements: <https://www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/theme/travel>

The European Union is currently preparing the ETIAS travel authorization (similar to ETA or ESTA). Please keep an eye on the official website for updates on its launch.

At this time, ETIAS is expected to be implemented in the last quarter of 2026 and therefore we expect that this **will not affect** your travel to the Water is Life Conference in June 2026. Please check the VISA's website.

When are participants expected to submit their travel details?

Participants will receive Information Pack 3 in **January 2026**, which will include a travel form. All flight details must be submitted by **March 10, 2026** at the latest.

Where is the host school located?

The host school, Maurick College, is located in the south of the Netherlands, about a one-hour drive from Amsterdam. Address: Titus Brandsmalaan 1, 5262 BS Vught, The Netherlands.

Questions?

Please see our FAQ's.

If you have any questions about the registration process, fee payment, or participation in general, or any question that is not mentioned in our FAQ's, please do not hesitate to contact the organizing team at waterisliveschools@maurickcollege.nl

Frequently Asked Questions - FAQ's

Categories: Conference Details, While at the Conference, Travel

Conference Details

- Q: Where can the forms for Water is Life be found?
 A: ALL forms can be found at www.waterisliveschools.com as well as in Information Packs and previous research papers.
- Q: How many teams may a school send to the Water is Life conference 2026?
 A: Each school may send up to two teams.
- Q: Is there a teacher's evening?
 A: Yes! There will be an evening where teachers have dinner together.
- Q: May we replace one student with another after full registration is submitted?
 A: Yes. Please contact us as soon as possible.
- Q: Does the Water is Life programme qualify for Erasmus+ funded mobility?
 A: Yes, the Water is Life programme meets the requirements for Erasmus+ eligible mobility. It includes a homestay experience and promotes collaboration between international students. Water is Life is a non-profit initiative run by a network of partner schools working together. You can prepare your Learning Agreement and submit it to the Water is Life organisers. For this, please contact the Erasmus+ coordinator at Maurick College, John van Heeswijk, via: j.van.heeswijk@maurickcollege.nl
- Q: How will the participants be grouped during the conference?
 A: Student participants will be grouped differently each day during activities at the school to maximize the opportunities to work with students from other countries and schools. Students and teachers from the same school will stay together during activities outside our school.
- Q: What is the "International Afternoon"?
 A: The International Afternoon is a celebration of sharing. Students can share songs, stories, dances, and music performances with their conference peers that reflect their own culture. While not mandatory, each team is encouraged to enrich the conference experience with a presentation that represents the culture of their country. Performances that include pre-recorded music must provide the music on a thumb drive (or accessible cloud service).

While at the Conference

- Q: What technology support is available at the conference?
 A: Each presentation room is equipped with an Apple Macbook or iPad, TV Screen and speakers. Apple Macbooks will have Microsoft PowerPoint and Internet connection for presentations. Students must bring their presentation on a drive or stored in an accessible cloud. Students preferring to use different types of computers (laptop / chromebooks) must bring their own computer.
- Q: What is the dress code for the conference?
 A: All participants, students and adults, are expected to see the Water is Life 2026 conference as a professional school trip. Students are expected to wear casual to slightly formal school or business attire. Students may wear their school uniforms and are encouraged to wear this at the opening and closing ceremonies.
 A conference shirt will be provided for each participant which should be worn during outdoor activities.

The rest of the time students and adult chaperones are expected to dress in casual clothes that are suitable for a professional experience. Swimsuits might be needed (if you wish) for our beach excursion with appropriately modest outer clothing.

- Q: Who is responsible for students while attending Water is Life 2026?
 A: Teacher chaperones are responsible for their own students for the entire conference.
- Q: What will the weather be like for Water is Life 2026?
 A: It is summertime in The Netherlands! Most of the time the weather will be good with minimal rainfall. Temperatures will range from 18°C to 35°C. But keep an eye on the weather forecasts!
- Q: Will there be a room for prayers?
 A: A quiet space for prayer and meditation will be available when we are at school. Please let us know on the registration form if you would like to make use of this.
- Q: What if a student becomes sick or injured during Water is Life 2026?
 A: Students who become ill or need medical help, have to inform the host family and the organising committee. Host families will take care if necessary and if possible. Injured will be attended by medical personnel and be transported to a doctor or hospital if needed. ALL conference participants, adults and students, are expected to purchase comprehensive travel insurance that includes medical insurance to cover participants during the conference.
- Q: May we use the copying or printing machines at Maurick College?
 A: No, all copies and printings must be completed prior to arrival.
- Q: Will we need an electrical converter/adaptor?
 A: Electrical power in the Netherlands is supplied at 230 Volts with a frequency of 50 Hz. Power outlets are of the Type C and Type F variety, which accept plugs with two round pins. Participants from countries with different plug types or voltage systems should bring a suitable adapter and, if necessary, a voltage converter to use their electronic devices safely.
- Q: Is the water safe to drink in The Netherlands?
 A: Yes, Tap water is safe to drink in The Netherlands.

Travel

- Q: Which airport should we use to arrive at Water is Life 2026?
 A: Participants should fly into **Amsterdam Airport Schiphol**. Maurick College will organise transportation from airport to school on Sunday, June 7, and back to the airport on Saturday, June 13.
- Q: Will transfer to and from the airport be available?
 A: Yes. Transfers from the airport to Maurick College are included in the conference fee.
- Q: What other costs should be expected?
 A: All participants are expected to book and pay for their own flights to and from the Netherlands. In addition, participants are required to purchase comprehensive travel insurance, which should include medical coverage as well as trip cancellation insurance.
- Q: Will assistance be provided to make private transportation arrangements during the conference?
 A: No, Maurick College staff may not make private transportation arrangements during the conference.
- Q: The conference is from June 8-12, 2026. When should participants arrive?
 A: The homestay period includes six nights, from the evening of **Sunday, June 7** to the morning of **Saturday, June 13 (departure)**. *It is possible for overseas travellers to arrive one day earlier on Saturday June 6th. Let us know if you wish to arrive earlier.*
- Q: Can our trip to The Netherlands (EU) be extended prior to or after the conference?
 A: Yes, Schools may make their own arrangements outside the Conference days for further EU and The Netherlands travel.
 All travel arrangements are the responsibility of the individuals who are extending their travel.