

What's up in education
New models for future pre-school services

Educational models of governance and ECEC services organisation

ITALY



Unione
delle
**Terre
d'argine**



Co-founded by the Erasmus+
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Educational models of governance and 0-6 services organisation

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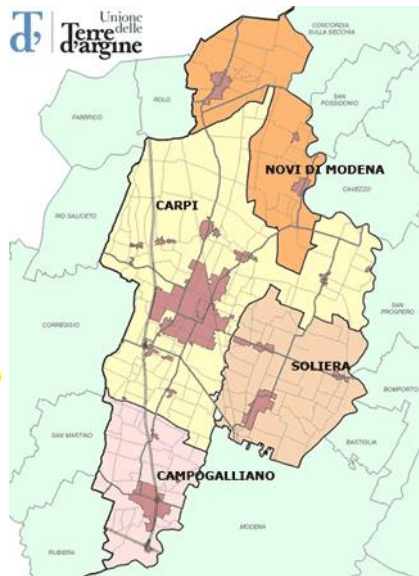
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General context

Socio-cultural context characteristics (culture, traditions, geographic area,...)

- We live in Emilia Romagna Region, famous for providing excellence in pre school services, like “Reggio Children”.
- Unione Terre d’Argine is the union of 4 municipalities (Campogalliano, Carpi, Novi di Modena, Soliera) with about 100.000 inhabitants. In the last 10 years (2004-2014) the demographic trend of 4 municipalities is increasing. Only in Novi di Modena we are witnessing a drastic population decline as result of the 2012 earthquake. In Carpi foreign people were 14.3% of the population, in Campogalliano 12.5%, in Novi 15.0%, while in Soliera this percentage drops to 9.4% (2014 data). In Carpi the most of foreign inhabitants are Pakistanis, in Campogalliano are Maroccans, in Novi are Chinese and in Soliera are Indian.
- We live in a flat and foggy land, but during the summer is mostly sunny and hot (pay attention to mosquitos!).
- The economic system is both rural and industrial, particularly famous for knitwear.



General context

Socio-cultural context characteristics

(culture, traditions, geographic area,...)

■ There's a culinary tradition with some very good typical products like balsamic vinegar, parmesan cheese, gnocco fritto and tigelle, tortellini, Lambrusco wine. Carpi has one of the biggest square in Italy. Every city is full of history: Campogalliano has the Scale Museum, Carpi has a beautiful castle and plays an important role in safeguarding WW2 remembrance. Novi was destroyed during the 2012 earthquake: Novi had a great tower, that was the symbol of the city but now is replaced with a new interesting cultural centre (PAC). Soliera has a great old castle too.

■ In UTdA area there're many families which work a lot and for many hours per day, so they need flexible preschool services, e.g. open from 7.30 to 18.00. We have an interactive open culture based on inclusion and participation. Historically people were interested in children and family, so there's an important sense of community and a specific attention to welfare system too. "The whole community has the responsibility towards raising a child" is our challenge and educational mission. Therefore, our culture is based on participation and sensibility about art, theatre, cinema.



Carpi square



Campogalliano,
Scale Museum



Novi, PAC



Soliera, castle



School system

Compulsory school system: different school levels and their management

Not compulsory		Compulsory			
Nursery school 0 - 3 Years	Pre-school 3 - 6 Years	Primary school 6 - 11 Years	Secondary school <table border="1"> <tr> <td>First level 11-13 Years</td> <td>Second level 13-16 Years 13-18 Years</td> </tr> </table>	First level 11-13 Years	Second level 13-16 Years 13-18 Years
First level 11-13 Years	Second level 13-16 Years 13-18 Years				
	Government	Government	Government		
Municipality	Municipality				
Private	Private	Private	Private		
Private affiliated					

Italian School system is divided into different levels.

The first step refers to not compulsory education from 0 to 6 years. In Emilia Romagna region, the nursery schools management (0-3 years) can be municipal, private or private affiliated with municipality, instead the pre-schools management (3-6 years) can be government, municipal or private. In our Region there're also integrative and experimental services for early childhood, that accommodate children from 0 to 6 years old, like CFC (Children and Families Centers).

The second step refers to compulsory education from 6 to 16 years. Primary school accommodates children from 6 to 11 years old; the management can be government or private.

The secondary school of first level (11-13 years) and the secondary school of second level (13-16 years) have government or private management. However most of secondary schools of second level end at 18 years old.

Local ECEC Services system

Local ECEC Services system characteristics

Local ECEC Services intercept community and families different needs and provide them with the appropriate responses, in terms of access/involvement possibility and organisation. In the last years, Unione Terre d'Argine ECEC Services pay attention to promote the families participation in the school life and to involve whole community in order to identify possible interventions and resources functional to improve the quality of ECEC services. In Unione Terre d'Argine area local ECEC Services system consists of: nursery schools, pre-schools and Children and Families Centers (CFC).

Type and number of Local ECEC services and related management

- 16 nursery schools (4 months - 3 years old): 12 municipal and 4 private affiliated with UTdA.
- 35 pre-schools (3-6 years old): 9 municipal (like **Arcobaleno pre-school**); 15 government; 11 private.
- 3 Children and Families Centers (CFC) that accomodate children from 0 to 6 years old, accompanied by an adult (mother, father, grandparent, baby-sitter, uncle/aunt, ...). These services have municipal management.

Local ECEC Services system

Educational background

“Every child has the right of having a good quality education”. It's very important to respect the history and the personality of every child and families too. Differences are a good opportunity and the main purpose is to create a good and integrated group, where the different social, cognitive and emotional skills can express. We promote a multi faceted approach covering all developmental needs of a child. Children with disability can find good accomodation and a specific attention to their special needs. Often children are organised in small group to allow them to know each other, so the adults can observe what happens and then can arrange future proposals. The outdoor education is a good opportunity and daily practice to involve different children's skills and competences.



Local ECEC Services system

Access/Accessibility (regulations, ways, cost, age, access rate, ...)

Each year the Unione Terre d'Argine indicates the timeframe for submission of the application form to access to nursery schools and pre-schools, which should be delivered to the Territorial Office of the Municipality of residence. The application forms gathered in each Territorial Office are arranged in different ranks. Children are assigned to a nursery school or pre-school based on a score assigned to each age group, according to family situation, and any special needs in relation to the location of the service and its features and organisation. This assessment is made in accordance with the current national and regional legislation.

The monthly fee is adapted to the actual financial means of the family, to guarantee that every child has access to preschool services.

Nursery schools

Full time attendance ■ full monthly fee: 470.00 € ■ minimum monthly fee: 85.00 €

Part-time attendance ■ full monthly fee: 390.00 € ■ minimum monthly fee: 65.00 €

Pre-schools ■ full monthly fee: 165.00 € ■ minimum monthly fee: 73.00 €

The access rate at nursery school is about 34,2% of inhabitants (13% of them are children with non-italian citizenship), while the access rate at pre-school is over 96% (21% of them are children with non-italian citizenship).

Local ECEC Services' organisational aspects

School calendar

Nursery schools and pre-schools are open from 1st September to 30th June, from Monday to Friday. There're some period of festivity near to Christmas and Easter and other national holidays. In July and august different summer camp are organised in order to accommodate families needs. CFC is open from 1st September to 30th June, from Monday to Saturday.

Schedule

7.30-16.00. From 16.00 to 18.00 if the family needs, because there's an additional cost and only in particular nersery schools and pre-schools. In the CFC there's a different organisation with specific schedule.

Attendance type

We have different attendance types: ■ 7.30-13.00 part-time attendance; ■ 7.30-16.00 full-time attendance; ■ 7.30-18.00 full-time + special time that family pays.

Numerical ratio between teacher and children

Nursery schools – it's based on the age of child (according to Regional law establishes):
■ until 12 months 1:5; ■ from 12 to 24 months 1:7 full-time services and 1:8 part-time services; ■ from 24 to 36 months 1:10.

Pre-schools – 2 teachers with 26 children maximum.

CFC – The children are always accompanied by an adult (parent, grandparent, baby-sitter,...). The teachers number depends on the children number.

Meal, diet

The diet is approved by the Nutrition and Alimentary Hygiene Service, in accordance with the Pediatric Service for the Community of the Carpi ASL 1 District. The diet changes depending on the seasons. If the child must follow a particular diet, following a pathology, alimentary allergies or other dysfunctions, a medical certificate specifying the ingredients that cannot be consumed must be submitted. We take into account different diets according to cultural, religious and health reasons (e.g. Muslim faith). Our menus encourage a greater consumption of fresh produce, particularly fruit and vegetables, according to guidelines of Nutrition Services of Modena ASL.

Local ECEC Services' organisational aspects

Other important aspects

- Each nursery school and pre-school is organised in different sections. Each section accommodates a specific children number depending on their age, usually they're the same age range.
- Each section can accommodate one or more children with special needs. A support teacher at section is provided when children have certified disabilities. In this case special projects are developed, which involve child's family, preschool services and local social and health services.