Questo fascicolo è tradotto in 12 lingue
albanese, arabo, cinese, francese, hindi, inglese, russo
serbo-croato, somalo, spagnolo, tagalog, urdu

testo in lingua inglese

Centro COME
Cooperativa Sociale “Farsi Prossimo”
via Porpora, 26
20131 Milano
tel 02.29.53.74.62
fax 02.20.40.11.20
e-mail info@centrocome.it

* FOTOCOPIES ARE FREE!

12 essential pieces of information to welcome your children
traduzioni: Elisabeth Robinson, Gigi D’Amico e Stefano Manfredi

testo: Arcangela Mastromarco

disegni: Santina Dalio

a cura di: Centro “COME”
nell’ambito della convenzione tra
Provincia di Milano
Settore Politiche Sociali e
Caritas Ambrosiana
Cooperativa Farsi Prossimo
WELCOME

to our country and our schools

Don't worry!

As a matter of fact there are centres that can give you advice:

Ufficio Stranieri
Comune di Milano
via Tadino, 12 Milano
tel.: 02.29.40.02.29

Centro COME
Cooperativa Farsi Prossimo
viale Porpora, 26 Milano
tel.: 02.29.53.74.62

Of course there are other foreign parents who can help you!

ENJOY YOUR SCHOOL!
WHAT IF THE CHILD DOES NOT SPEAK ITALIAN?

To help your child’s full participation to the class activities and to teach him the new language, teachers will organize personalized meetings and lessons of written and oral Italian.

In some schools there are teachers who have the specific duty to teach Italian to foreign children.
HOW LONG DOES SCHOOLING LAST IN ITALY?

Compulsory school lasts 8 years

- 5 years of primary school
- 3 years of secondary school

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nursery</th>
<th>up to 3 years old</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>from 3 to 6 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>from 6 to 11 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>from 11 to 14 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school</td>
<td>over 14 years old</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrolment is free of charge. The school provides the textbooks and the family has to buy school materials such as exercise-books, pencils, pens, coloured pencils.

Ask the teachers for a list of the necessary materials.
Teachers periodically meet parents to talk with them about the class programme and their children’s progress and problems. These moments are very important in order to let the school and the family cooperate for the education and the full participation of the pupil.

**INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS**

Each teacher will inform the parents of the day he/she can meet them to talk about the child’s situation. The parents too can ask for a meeting with the teachers.

*If you want to discuss about your child ask immediately for a meeting with teachers.*
2. WHICH DOCUMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ENTER CHILDREN AT PRIMARY SCHOOL?

The following documents are required:

- birth certificate (in Italian)
- vaccination certificate (in Italian)
- the documents from the school attended in the country of origin (in Italian)

In case such documents are not available, the parent may declare on his own responsibility which class the child attended in the country of origin.

**Fill these forms when apply:**

- choice of the type of school (see #3)
- catholic religion education (see #6)
- enrolment to the school meal (see #4)
- enrolment to pre-school and evening games

*If you do not have the vaccination certificate ask the school nurse who will indicate you what to do.*
HOW ARE SCHOOL PERFORMANCES APPRAISED?

The school year is divided into two four-months terms: from September to January and from January to June. In January and June teachers examine the child's results and draw up a "school report" which is then given to the family.

At the end of the fifth year there is a final examination.
"FULL TIME" OR "PARTIAL TIME" SCHOOL?

In many schools parents can choose between two different time-tables and scholastic organization.

• **full time school:**

40 hours per week from Monday to Friday from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.
School meal is compulsory.

• **partial time school**

27 or 30 hours per week. Week time-table (1, 2, 3 or 4 afternoons) is set by the school itself.
School meal is not compulsory.
Classes start at 8.30 a.m.
Don’t be late

*Ask immediately about your son’s school time-table*
In the primary school pupils study:

- Italian language
- mathematics
- le scienze
- history
- geography
- social studies
- drawing (educazione all'immagine)
- physical training (educazione motoria)
- music (educazione musicale)

Starting from the third year children study also a foreign language.
4 HOW TO ENROL CHILDREN TO THE SCHOOL MEAL

In some school, and every school in Milan there is the school meal service. Parents pay for lunch a charge according to the family's income. It is possible to ask for a special diet for health or religious reasons.

Submit these forms to the school secretary office:

- application for admission to the school meal
- tax form 101 or 740
- request for a special diet

For any question or problem, please ask the secretary office.
ABSENCES

Every absence must always be justified by parents. If the pupil is ill for more than 6 days, a medical certificate attesting that the child has recovered must be shown when he comes back to school.
The school year roughly lasts 9 months. It begins around middle September and ends up by mid June.

There are two major holidays:

- two weeks for Christmas (usually from December 23 to January 6)
- around a week for Easter (in March or April)

More shorter holidays are scattered around the year.

For information about the application form ask the secretary office.

The school will inform you of any other closing with a note in your child's notebook. Always check out the notebook!
THE TEACHING OF THE CATHOLIC RELIGION OR AN ALTERNATIVE CHOICE?

The teaching of the Catholic religion is scheduled for two hours per week. At the time of enrolment parents have to declare if they choose to:

- **avail**
- **not to avail**

of this teaching. If parents decide not to let their children study the Catholic religion, they can choose among three alternative possibilities:

- educational activities
- study activities or individual research works with teachers’ support
- leaving the school