



Agrupamento de Escolas André Soares

Agrupamento de Escolas André Soares is located in the centre of Braga, a city in the north of Portugal, in a very modern building. The Agrupamento is formed by a basic school, André Soares school, and four primary schools: S. Lázaro primary school, Carandá primary school, Fujacal primary school and Ponte Pedrinha primary school.

Escola E.B. 2,3 André Soares is a basic school with around 1,090 students. In this universe of students we have forty students with Special Needs like Down syndrome, mental deficiency, autism, Asperger syndrome, hyperactivity, etc. Most of the classes have disabled students, one or two in each class. We have even got a Specialized Support Unit for students with serious disabled problems. At the moment there are six students attending this Unit.

Some years ago we have started to feel an increase of migrant children, mainly from Brazil, Ukraine and Romania. As long as these students have not learnt the Portuguese language, they cannot interact with the others, which make them have problems with social integration.

The learning of English, as a foreign language, is very important for their future life as citizens. ICT will also be an important tool to increase their motivation, especially for those who have learning difficulties and behavioral problems. In the meantime, a project website will be set up with different contents for the students interact. Both processes and results/products of the various activities can be illustrated and shared on this platform. That's why the participation on this project is of extreme importance because it will allow them learn English in a more motivating way.

Escola André Soares provides a disciplined and stimulating environment for all children to learn and succeed. Pupils are provided with high levels of challenge throughout, whilst the curriculum aims to develop pupils into independent learners as well as equipping them with the tools required for life in the 21st century.

Maria Esperança Fernandes