



# *Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca*

*Dipartimento per il Sistema educativo di Istruzione e Formazione*

*Direzione Generale per lo studente, l'integrazione e la partecipazione*

## **Invitation from Italy**

### **Optional program prior to the bi-annual meeting in Rome, Italy, November 2015**

*The Italian Ministry of Education and Research and the General Directorate for Students, Integration and Participation hereby invite European Agency member countries to a study visit at the Italian inclusive School System in one of five different locations in Italy: Turin, Lovere (BG), Prato/Cortona, Palermo and Lecce. This will give you an opportunity to look into our work and engage in dialogue. It is also a good networking opportunity. We are working in order to provide you with accommodation free of charge or at low rates.*

## **Program**

**Arrival day: 8 November**

**Departure day: 11 November in the morning,** in order to reach Rome in time for the biannual meeting.

## **PRATO/CORTONA**





<b>Region</b>	<b>Tuscany</b>
<b>Citry</b>	<b>Prato/Cortona</b>
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Inclusion of ASD pupils with severe cognitive disorder in comorbidity with behavioural issues, aggressiveness and self-harm acting-outs and the role of school networks</b>

<b>Sites</b>	Istituto Comprensivo "Gandhi" (Prato) Autism Helpdesk (Cortona)
<b>Description</b>	<p>The educational goal of the Integrated Gandhi Project is the achievement of personal, behavioural and social skills (fostering autonomy) by creating “real life” situations; they can learn, for instance, how to actually cope with being in crowded public places, dealing with long waiting time, peers’ and adults’ proximity, noises and smells. Teachers create also a continuity among the pupils’ families, social/health services, school, and so on. They are also mediators in the interactions among peers. Helping autistic pupils to make friends is one of the most important parts of this project, as it is not an spontaneous process, but it needs a persistent and relentless work, “like a weaver intertwining his net knot by knot”.</p> <p>Autism helpdesk in Cortona currently involves support teachers and curricular teachers of Cortona Istituto Comprensivo. It offers support to a network of schools in Cortona district with the support of the Municipality and other local authorities.</p>
<b>Universities involved</b>	IC “Gandhi” (supervised by Prof. Antonio Calvani) collaborates with the University of Florence (Developmental Education Department) in organizing lab traineeship for teachers.

**Programme**  
**9 november, Prato**

<b>9 november 2015: morning</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>

9.00	Arrival at “IC Gandhi”, welcome and visit of the “Integrated Gandhi Project” labs, of the “Territorial Support Centre”, of the Autism and Augmentative Alternative Communication Helpdesk.
10.30	Coffee break
11.00	Class observation at “Gandhi Primary School” and “Zipoli Secondary School”
12.30	Lunch at Gandhi Primary School

9 November 2015: afternoon	
Time	Place
14.00	Visit of “Leonardo da Vinci” Primary School. Daily school life experiences of inclusive education.
15.30	Coffee break
16.00	Visit of “Luca d’Amico Primary School”. Daily school life experiences of inclusive education.
17.30	End of activities

Dinner and cultural programme	
Time	Place
19.00	Dinner at the “IC Gandhi” canteen with the school community: teachers, pupils and parents. Pupils’ performance.
20.30	Bus transfer to Cortona

Hotel Giugni, Piazza degli Innocenti, 3 - Prato.  
<http://www.albergogiugni.it/lalbergo/?lang=en>

**10 november, Cortona**

<b>10 November 2015: morning</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>
9.00	Saluto del Sindaco di Cortona e dei Dirigenti Scolastici Relazioni: esperienze di reti inclusive Visit at the autism helpdesk and at the Senses and Perceptions Lab Sede : Scuola Primaria via Q.Zampagni Camucia
10,30	Coffee break a cura degli studenti dell'Istituto "A.Vegni" indirizzo alberghiero
12.30	Lunch at "Il Loggiato" Restaurant

<b>10 november 2015: afternoon</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>
14.00	Centro Congressi S. Agostino. Question time and discussion
15.30	Coffee break
16.00	Summing up

<b>cultural programme</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>
17.00	Visit at the city centre and at the MAEC e Diocesan museum
19,00	Dinner at "Pozzo Antico" Restaurant

Hotel Italia, via Ghibellina 5/7 Cortona

<http://www.hotelitaliacortona.com/eng>