



European
Joint
Support Unit

Education

Poggio





Education and Schooling

Poggio Renatico does not have an Education Officer, and so any queries with regards to Education and Resettlement should be addressed through Head of Location.

All Service Personnel and UK Based Civil Servants wishing to send their children to schools in the EJSU area of responsibility, must ensure that they have read the education policies and information relating to their area of assignment. Follow the link for the latest guidelines regarding education: www.gov.uk/guidance/childrens-education-advisory-service#history

Parents should conduct their own research and must satisfy themselves that the school is suitable for use before committing their child to attend. Parents are not mandated to use the schools detailed within the information provided but remain free to choose a school that they believe is suitable for their child's education.

MOD has a legal responsibility to ensure that the children of Service Personnel and UK Based Civil Servants attend school or undertake home tuition. However, parents remain responsible for deciding which school their child will attend.

Children's Education Advisory Service (CEAS)

CEAS is a tri-service organisation funded by the MOD. It was established to provide information and support to Service families and eligible MOD civilians on all aspects of the education of their children in the UK and overseas.

When children move frequently from one school to another or between different educational systems obtaining appropriate provision can be complex. CEAS provides information and advice as well as supporting parents at meetings with schools, local authorities, at tribunal etc. Parents apply directly to the school for a place while concurrently applying separately to CEAS for the education clearance certificate.

The most effective way to contact the CEAS team is via email: DCYP-CEAS-Enquiries@mod.gov.uk

Emails are checked every working day and allocated to case workers to provide the required action.

CEAS helpline: 01980 618244 or 94344 8244

Website: www.gov.uk/government/group/the-childrens-education-advisory-service-ceas

Nursery, Primary and Secondary Children's Education

Instituto San Vincenzo

This is a nursery and primary education facility in Ferrara for pre-school age children. It is a local Italian run curriculum with all classes taught in Italian.

Smiling Service International School

Located in Ferrara, Smiling School caters for all children between the ages of 2 and 16 years as it has three departments; Nursery for children 2-5years (funded for children aged 3+ as per UK), Primary for children 5-10 years and Secondary for children 10-16 years. The language of instruction is English.

The school is split over 2 sites located within the city and they are approximatively 15 minutes' walk from each other. The Corso Porta Mare site is for children aged 2 – 6 years, (Early Years & early Primary) and the Via Roversella site is for children aged 7+ . If you have children of different ages, who attend different locations, there is a bus service provided for a monthly fee, by the school to help with drop off and collections of the children.

As this school is ran on the Italian curriculum it is highly recommended to do extensive research prior to applying for a place. Smiling school has mixed reviews from the NATO community, and it is considered by some to be less suitable for children in Secondary education, as they follow the Italian Ministerial program. The Smiling School Report can be provided by the CLO on request.

<http://smilingsservice.it/> admin@smilingsservice.it info@smilingsservice.it

For more information, visit their website, click on the Union Flag icon to automatically translate the site to English. It is advisable to contact the school prior to your arrival for a list of items you are required to provide for your child, as it may be cheaper to purchase these in the UK before you arrive, in particular stationary items and uniform.

The International School of Bologna

Located in Bologna, approx. a 50 minute drive south-west of Ferrara. This school is an International Baccalaureate School (IB Program) and is an English language school. For further information please go to their website at www.isbologna.com.

The English International School of Padova (EISP)

Located 1 hour north of Ferrara, it is a private school that welcomes students from 18 months old to the completion of secondary school. For further information please visit their website at www.eisp.it.

Parents are advised to conduct their own research by speaking to the school and families in location to ensure the school is suitable for your family.

The School Year

Please note that Italian school calendar is very different than in the UK. Nurseries open at the beginning of September and close at the end of June, whereas Primary and Secondary school starts in the middle of September and ends at the beginning of June. Holiday clubs are available for periods of the holidays but can be expensive.

The Italian Bank Holidays are (20/21 Example)

2 November: All Souls'

8 December: Immaculate Conception

24 Dec- 6 Jan: Christmas Holidays

25-26 Feb: White Weekend

1-6 Apr: Easter Holidays

23 Apr: St George Patron Saint of Ferrara

2 Jun: Republic Day

Getting to School and Allowances

JSP 342

Transport. Official transport should be used wherever possible. When no Service provision can be made, the refund will be confined to the cheapest method appropriate to the area and the circumstances. Where the use of a private car is authorised, the appropriate lower rate of mileage allowance may be claimed for 2 x return journeys to and from school daily.

Supplements for additional passengers are not payable. If the school provides transport, the cost may be reimbursed up to the equivalent of motor mileage allowance. Dependant on your housing allocation a second vehicle may be desirable due to location.

Equipment and Resources

JSP 342

Dependant on school age, there is an extensive stationery list that is to be purchased by the parent. Some of these costs can be reclaimed, as per the next page, but receipts need to be provided.



DCYP Bites – JSP 342

Revised on 09/09/20

Admissible stationery items usually provided free of charge in English primary schools

Books and stationery

When children attend non-MOD schools overseas, the refund of the cost of essential books and stationery as required by the school authorities and that would be normally provided free of charge in England's State maintained sector, is admissible. Such claims are subject to audit, and refunds will be made only on production of suitable receipts.

What do pupils usually have access to (free of charge) when attending a primary school in England?

- Pencil
- Pen
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Coloured pencils (shared)
- Felt pens (shared)
- Maths exercise book
- English exercise book
- Sketch/art technology
- Exercise book
- Topic exercise book
- Reading books
- Reading diary

This is not an exhaustive list and there may be other items which some schools in England refund, where others don't. Parents should be aware that there is no 100% automatic refund of stationery items purchased whilst overseas and without valid receipts, refunds cannot be processed. If stationery costs are included as mandatory by the school (written evidence required), then parents will be able to apply for a refund to ensure they are not disadvantaged.

Secondary pupils

In England, children in secondary schools are expected to have their own stationery and therefore refunds are not admissible overseas.

Technology

Where electronic devices are provided on a staged payment or deposit basis, costs cannot be reclaimed if the device becomes the property of the claimant/child at any time during the posting.