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SKUPINOVÁ MOBILITA: **Escola Básica dos 2o e 3o Ciclos Dr. Horácio Bento de Gouveia, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal**

TERMÍN: **15. 3. 2025 – 22. 3. 2025**

PROJEKT: **Our Planet, Our Responsibility: Learning from the Earth's Ecosystems for a Sustainable Future**

Escola Básica Dr. Horácio Bento de Gouveia

Eight pupils from our school, together with their **two teachers**, Miss Schormová and Miss Kosová, took part in a week mobility to Madeira as part of the Erasmus+ learning programme from 15 to 22 March 2025. The partner school in Madeira is called **Dr. Horácio Bento de Gouveia Escola Básica dos 2.º e 3.º Ciclos** and is located in the island's capital, Funchal.



This school was formerly known as Cruz de Carvalho Preparatory School. Today, the school serves a broad, socially diverse public school and, thanks in particular to the recognized quality of its services, boasts a high student enrolment. In the current school year 2024/2025, **1,305 students are enrolled in the school, divided into 56 classes.**

The school has **222 teachers and approximately 90 other employees.**



A very important part of the school is the **Learning Support Centre**, a support structure that brings together the school's human and material resources, knowledge, and skills. The specific objectives of this Centre include, in particular: **promoting the quality of student**

participation in classroom activities. Supporting teachers of individual groups or classes. **Promoting the creation of teaching resources and assessment tools** for different groups of students. **Developing interdisciplinary intervention methodologies** that facilitate learning processes, independence, and adaptation to school life. Supporting the simplification of the transition to life after compulsory schooling. And many others.

The school also has a **Multidisciplinary Team for the Support of Inclusive Education**, which plays an irreplaceable role and is one of the specific organizational resources focused on supporting the learning and





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integration of students with regard to a broad, integrated, and participatory structure for everyone involved in the educational process.

I was surprised that the school also offers a wide range of services for its students and their legal guardians. These include **administrative services**, which provide personalized assistance to students, teaching and non-teaching staff, as well as in the areas of payroll, records, and cashier services.

There is also a **School social activity**, whose main function is to support economically disadvantaged students. This activity provides all students with more balanced conditions for progress in learning. **Students can receive contributions for transportation, food, and textbooks depending on their level of disadvantage.** Social activity services are available at the school office.



Then there is the **student cafeteria**, which is located on the first floor and has a space suitable for students to relax, chat, and eat. An integral part of the school is the **school canteen** which is located on the 1st floor, opposite the Student cafeteria.

Another service offered to students is the **stationery shop** and a **copy centre**, located on the first floor of the building. Pupils can buy exercises books, coloured papers,

pencils, pens and all they need for school.

The school also has an **extensive library** with a collection of thousands of books, newspapers, magazines, and other formats. Access to computers with internet connection is a matter of course.

Last but not least, I would like to mention that the Dr. Horácio Bento de Gouveia Escola Básica school offers **psychological services for students, teachers, and legal guardians.**

Overall, I had a **good impression of the school.** Although it consisted of multi-story buildings, all the **rooms were bright, and the corridors were wide and airy.** The school is **wheelchair accessible**, so there were **elevators** in addition to stairs. An integral part of the school is the **auditorium**, where various ceremonies, student concerts, and performances take place.





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Most classrooms had **single desks, lessons last 90 minutes**, followed by a **15-minute break and then another 90 minutes...** Students have their own lockers and, importantly, **they do not change their shoes.**

Classrooms are equipped with data **projectors and tablets** are used. In the "classroom of the future," our students had the opportunity to work with a 3D printer. The specialized classrooms for natural sciences are equipped to a relatively high standard (fume hood, sterilizer, 3D models of human organs, etc.).

The opportunity to visit a school in such a distant country with different customs and traditions was really beneficial for both the students and teachers of our school.

Author: Martina Kosová

