# School Welcome Guide

2nd edition







Arganil School Cluster

#### **Title**

School Welcome Guide

### **Document preparation**

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#### **Translation**

GoodSpell - Communication | Translation | Editing

#### **Promoters**

The High Commission for Migration Arganil Municipal Council Co-funded by FAMI Project: "Municipal Plan for Migrant Integration in Arganil"

### Graphic design and printing

WAW Design: https://wawdesign.pt

#### **Versions**

Portuguese and English

March 2023

### **Introductory Note**

The School Welcome Guide is designed to be an instrument to facilitate and promote the integration and participation of migrant children, young people and adults, who live here or have recently moved here, in the school community in our area. In recent decades, Arganil has seen a significant increase in the number of foreigners in the municipality, making it necessary to introduce a simplified support mechanism with all of the information and guidelines for parents and guardians in the integration of their children into school life.

After the first step was taken for the Municipal Plan for Migrant Integration in Arganil, presented in January 2018, followed by the presentation of the Arganil Welcome Kit in April 2019, the School Welcome Guide is a clear and objective compendium of information about levels of schooling, enrolment, granting equivalency, school social action and other services and projects developed by the school and by the municipality. This information is important for better integration of children, young people and adults, whether in pre-schools or schools in the Arganil School Cluster.

This handbook is particularly useful and advantageous, reinforcing the value of intercultural diversity and the importance of the integration of migrant communities into integrated and sustained local development.

The Councillor for Education,

Luís Almeida

Schools are a privileged space for meeting and integration, building bridges between the people arriving and those welcoming them. We want a school for all. Where everybody has space and where a strong and cohesive collective is built from the individuality of each one, based on and enriched by diversity.

Thus the aim is for this guide to be an important instrument for people coming from other places and who have chosen to live in Arganil to take their first steps here.

Welcome!

The Councillor for Social Action, Elisabete Oliveira

### Welcome to the Arganil School Cluster!

In this school setting, we like to welcome people and provide the best possible conditions to everybody who wants to continue their academic career with us.

Schools are places of meeting and sharing, where each person seeks to make their own way... Guided pupils/trainees direct their work, organising themselves, with the assistance of a group of professionals: teachers and other staff, who help them to make decisions.

Consequently, based on our anthem, the culture of this school cluster is one of putting down roots, of dreams, hard work and the quest for knowledge. Thus, each individual pathway is reinforced by the support they are given as they mature and by helping them in their decision-making. No pupil/trainee is left behind, as each one must make their own choices. In this context, the title of the anthem is enlightening: "The power of belief", because we are positive energy that believes in the future, in your future.

(Introductory text in the 2014/2015 School Agenda)

The Board

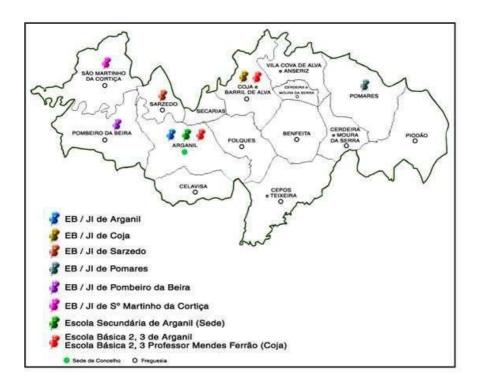
Principal: Anabela Soares Vice-Principal: Leonor Simões Vice-Principal: Alfredo Gonçalves

Vice-Principal: Graça Dias Vice-Principal: Graça Lopes

### 1. Arganil School Cluster (educational project)

The vision of the Arganil School Cluster is to promote the right of children, young people and adults to be free, fostering the thinking, insight and imagination necessary to develop their talents and to remain masters of their own destiny. Its mission is to teach and train citizens who are critical, responsible and enterprising, giving them the essential skills for integration into the world of work and the community. The values/principles are freedom, responsibility, respect, demand and quality.

#### Map of schools in the cluster



### 2. Education Levels and Courses

### **Education and Teaching Levels**

**Pre-school education** – optional – for children aged three to six – Arganil, Coja, Pombeiro da Beira, São Martinho da Cortiça, Sarzedo, Pomares kindergartens (JI).

There are three stages to schooling:

### 1. Primary school (compulsory)

- **1st cycle:** 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th years Arganil, Coja, Pombeiro da Beira, São Martinho da Cortiça, Sarzedo and Pomares primary schools (EB1). Primary school offers Curriculum Enrichment activities such as the Performing Arts, Physical Activities and Sport and Music.
- **2nd cycle:** 5th and 6th years Arganil and Prof. Mendes Ferrão middle schools (EB23).
- **3rd cycle:** 7th, 8th and 9th years Arganil and Prof. Mendes Ferrão middle schools (EB23).

# Arganil Artistic Centre at the Coimbra Music Conservatory's Artistic School

The Coimbra Music Conservatory's Artistic School (EACMC), which is over 30 years old, has been making a name for itself as a leading school in terms of artistic education in Portugal.

EACMC is also an important local artistic agent with quite an expressive cultural agenda, providing the school community and other audiences with the opportunity to enjoy cultural activities.

As a result of a meeting of minds and cooperation with Arganil Municipal Council, the Coimbra Music Conservatory's Artistic School and the Arganil School Cluster began the Arganil Artistic Centre in 2017/2018, operating out of Arganil Middle School, with pupils who live in Arganil, Coja and Góis studying under the combined and supplementary systems.

With the aim of promoting Specialised Music Classes for pupils in the municipality of Arganil and other neighbouring municipalities, beginning in the 2022/2023 school year, the Arganil Artistic Centre will be open to 3rd and 4th year pupils (beginners' course) and 5th to 9th year pupils (1st to 5th level in the Basic Music Course).

Specialised artistic training is part of the course in the following subjects: Musical Training, Music Groups (choral or instrumental) and Instrument. Classes are taught in the following instruments: Transverse Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Tuba, Percussion and Piano.

### **Secondary school** (compulsory)

• **Secondary:** 10th, 11th and 12th years (Arganil secondary school)

Scientific and Humanities Courses: Science and Technology, Socioeconomic Science, Languages and Humanities, Visual Arts.

Vocational Courses: Multimedia Technician; Environmental and Rural Tourism Agent; Sociocultural Entertainer; Healthcare Assistant; Industrial Maintenance Technician – focusing on Mechatronics; Sports Coach; Forest and Environmental Resources Officer; Sales Assistant.

The area of Citizenship and Development is included as part of the curriculum that is transversal to all levels of education.

**Centro Qualifica:** Recognition, Validation and Certification of Competencies (RVCC) for primary, middle and secondary schooling (4th year, 6th year, 9th year and 12th year; PRO RVCC (Educational Activities, Administrative Assistant, Industrial Maintenance Technician in Metallurgy and Metalworking and Geriatric Care); Adult Education Courses (type A, B and C); Portuguese for Speakers of Other Languages (A1, A2, B1 and B2) and Certified Modular Training of 25 hours and 50 hours.

Adults can register at Centro Qualifica throughout the school year, in person at the main school or online at aearganil@centroqualifica.gov.pt

### **Non-University Post-Secondary Education**

Technological Specialisation Courses (CET) make it possible to gain a scientific or technological specialisation in a certain training area and are available for pupils who have completed secondary school or that have legally equivalent qualifications.

### 3. Higher Education 1

### **University of Coimbra** (public education)

Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Science and Technology, Faculty of Pharmacy, Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, Faculty of Sports Science and Physical Education.

### **Coimbra Polytechnic Institute** (public education)

Coimbra Higher School of Agriculture, Coimbra Higher School of Education, Coimbra Higher School of Health Technology, Oliveira do Hospital Higher School of Technology and Management, Coimbra Higher Institute of Accounting and Administration, Coimbra Higher Institute of Engineering.

### **Private Higher Education**

Coimbra University School of the Arts, Vasco da Gama University School, Bissaya Barreto Higher Institute, Miguel Torga Higher Institute, Portuguese Open University.

1 The closest university to Arganil is in Coimbra, but there are other higher education alternatives in

the Central Region of Portugal, namely:

- University of Beira Interior [Covilhã]
- Castelo Branco Polytechnic Institute
- Guarda Polytechnic Institute
- Leiria Polytechnic Institute

### 3. Enrolment

Enrolment refers to the first registration for pre-school education or in the compulsory schooling system (1st year or 1st cycle, or any other year if pupils transfer from international school systems). Registration is automatically renewed whenever a pupil moves on from one school year to the next after they have been enrolled in the system for the first time.

#### WHFN

From 15 April to 15 June.

#### WHERE

On the internet at Portal das Escolas / Matrícula Eletrónica, using the link whitps://portaldasmatriculas.edu.gov.pt/

If the parent or guardian is unable to make the enrolment request on the internet, they can get technical assistance at the main school in the Arganil School Cluster – Arganil Secondary School.

#### The Portal das Matrículas should be used for:

- First-time enrolment in pre-school and in 1st year;
- Re-enrolling when moving on from 5th, 7th, 10th and 12th years;
- Re-enrolling when moving on from other years, whenever desired or necessary:
- Changing schools;
- A change in the parent or guardian;
- Changing courses or areas;
- Choosing subjects.

### **DOCUMENTS REQUIRED**

Before beginning, the parent or guardian should ensure they have the following documents:

- Their own identification document
- Their child's identification document
- A digital photo of their child
- Their own and their child's tax number
- Their own and their child's social security number

### 4. Granting Equivalency

### FOREIGN EQUIVALENCY

Equivalency/recognition of qualifications, studies and diplomas from foreign education systems.

#### Who can request it and where should they go?

- Portuguese and foreign citizens resident in Portugal.
- At schools in their area of residence in Portugal, formalising the equivalency request by filling in a special form, to be provided by the school.

### **NATIONAL EQUIVALENCY**

Equivalency of old qualifications from the Portuguese educational system to current qualifications, in years of schooling, up to middle school and secondary school.

### Who can request it?

Citizens that can prove they hold old qualifications from the Portuguese education system.

### When and how can the request be made?

At any time of the year, during normal opening hours, in person or by post.

### 5. School Social Action

School Social Action (ASE) is aimed at ensuring equal opportunities through social and educational support measures aimed at all primary, middle and secondary school pupils whose families are in an economic position that determines the need for financial assistance.

#### 1. MEALS

a) School canteens in the kindergartens and primary schools

The municipality of Arganil will pay the full price of school lunches and snacks for children in pre-school (EPE) and pupils in primary school who are in Category 1 and 50% for those in Category 2, according to the per capita income of the household, following calculations carried out by the Arganil Municipality Education Service.

b) School canteens in primary, middle and secondary schools

The provision of meals at school canteens is aimed at ensuring a balanced diet suited to the needs of the pupils. All of the pupils benefit from having part of the price of the meals served in school canteens paid for, according to Category 1, 2 or 3, attributed by Social Security, and the service is provided by the municipality of Arganil.

### c) School buffets

This is a service in addition to the school canteen in middle and secondary schools, with a price system that encourages the pupils to adopt healthy eating habits. The buffet indirectly supports pupils who, due to socioeconomic issues, need extra food.

### d) School milk programme

Free daily distribution of 20 cl of school milk to children in pre-school (EPE) and primary school throughout the school year.

### e) School fruit system

Free distribution of fruit and vegetables to primary school pupils throughout the school year.

#### 2. School Insurance

This is socio-educational support in addition to the support provided by the national health system for children in pre-school and pupils studying in public primary, middle and secondary schools.

#### 3. Accommodation

An accommodation support service is provided for pupils who cannot stay in their homes during the school term. This consists of the possibility of:

- Integration into the official network of residences for pupils.
- Placement with foster families.

#### 4. Economic aid

For children going to school when their family income does not allow them to pay school-related expenses, such as meals, books, school supplies and accommodation.

### 5. MEGA schoolbooks programme

Schoolbooks are free for pupils doing their compulsory schooling in public schools. To get them, the parent or guardian has to register on the online platform (https://manuaisescolares.pt/) and/or the mobile app (Edu Rede Escolar) (your tax number will be requested) and use the vouchers issued.

# 6. Complementary Social Responses – Free Time Activity Centres (CATL)

Diverse complementary socio-educational activities for before and after school and during the holidays, aimed at primary, middle and secondary school pupils in the format of Free Time Activity Centres. This support is provided through cooperation agreements signed by Social Security and solidarity or charity institutions. Family contributions for beneficiaries of this support should be made to the entities providing this social response at the school where the child/pupil is enrolled.

### 7. Digital School Programme

The "Digital School" programme organised by the Ministry of Education and run centrally by the General Secretariat for Education and Science (SGEC) is based on four pillars, of which access to equipment and connectivity are of note. The goals of this programme are to ensure access by all pupils and their parents to computer equipment with an internet connection and digital educational resources. Thus, **Phase 2 of Making Digital Schools Universal** includes the distribution of the following kits **to all primary, middle and secondary school pupils:** 

- a computer kit [headphones with a microphone (headset) and a backpack].
- a connectivity kit [1 router + 1 SIM card]. [a hotspot (router) and a SIM card with unlimited data usage, exclusively in an educational context and for responsible use. In addition, a monthly 2-GB data package is provided, to be used freely, with the possibility of reinforcing this with data top-ups. These can be bought at Multibanco cashpoints, where a receipt is issued. These additional top-ups are the sole responsivity of the parent or guardian, who must pay the associated cost].

This equipment is given to the pupils temporarily and free of charge and is aimed at being used exclusively for the pupils' teaching and learning process. **The equipment loaned must be returned:** 

- on the date of conclusion of each cycle (end of 4th year, end of 9th year or end of 12th year);
- in the event of a transfer to another school cluster / school;
- in the event of the application of disciplinary penalties that imply a "school transfer" or "expulsion from school", as provided for in Article 28(2)(d) and (e) of the Rules for Pupils and School Ethics (Law No. 51/2012, of 5 September, in its current wording).

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## 8. SOCIO-EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY ARGANIL MUNICIPALITY

In addition to assuring the provision of school meals (lunch and a snack), to pre-school and primary school pupils, the municipality of Arganil also provides:

- Workbooks: Public primary schools Category 1 pupils (free), Category 2 pupils (half price).
- School Transport: free for pupils at all education and teaching levels resident in the municipality of Arganil, with 50% payment for pupils living outside the municipality and attending schools in the Arganil School Cluster.
- Entertainment and Family Support Activities (AAAF): this is a social and educational response aimed at meeting the needs of families and the children that go to public kindergartens. The AAAF ensure children are cared for before and after school, at lunchtime and during the holidays (Christmas, Carnival, Easter and summer holidays July and September. This service is provided directly by the municipality or through agreements with private solidarity and charity institutions.
- Family Support Component (CAF) at Pomares and Pombeiro da Beira primary schools (EB1). This response consists of a set of activities that ensure the follow-up of students in the 1st cycle of basic education before or after curriculum components and extracurricular activities, as well as during periods of school break.

#### NOTE:

Registration for meals and snacks in pre-school / primary school, transport and/or family entertainment and support activities is at the Arganil Municipal Council's One-Stop Office (Balcão Único).

### **Arganil One-Stop Office (Balcão Único)**

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### 6. Arganil School Cluster Projects

### 1. Social, Personal and Community Development Plan

Through the national educational success programme, the Arganil school cluster presented a Social, Personal and Community Development Plan to the Ministry of Education and was assigned the following technical resources:

- Speech therapy for developing the Learning to Read and Write measure Sound gym for pre-school and primary school children;
- Computer technician for developing the Digital Literacy measure in primary school;
- Psychology for the 2MT (Mentoring and Tutoring) measure for primary, middle and secondary school pupils.

### 2. EEA (Europe Education Area)

The European Education Area includes all the projects aimed at the internationalisation of the Arganil School Cluster, namely:

- the European Parliament Ambassador School Programme / the European Club / the European Youth Parliament
- the goals of the European Club, which organises the European Youth Parliament (primary, middle and secondary schools) each year are to develop the ability of the pupils to argue in defence of their ideas; promote citizenship in schools; promote democratic debate; promote experiencing the fundamental rules that govern civic participation by individuals in a democratic society and bring young people closer to Europe, reflecting on the relationship between the peoples of the European Union.

#### 3. YOUTH PARLIAMENT

This project helps to teach children about citizenship, stimulating their interest in civic and political participation, promoting democratic debate by going to the Portuguese parliament, thus providing them with the experience of participation in electoral processes and stimulating their ability to express themselves and argue their point.



#### 4. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AMBASSADOR SCHOOL PROGRAMME

Since 2018/19, the Arganil School Cluster has been part of the Educational Programme "European Parliament Ambassador School Programme" launched by the parliament in 27 member states. This programme is aimed at promoting awareness of the European Union and European parliamentary democracy among young people, particularly secondary and vocational school pupils.





#### 5. SCHOOL CLUSTER NEWSPAPER - ECOS DO ACOR

The school newspaper "Ecos do Açor" is published weekly and provides for the development of skills among the pupils, by using what they have learnt at school and important experiences from daily life.



#### 6. EDUCATION FOR HEALTH PROJECT - PES

This project helps pupils to make choices and appropriate decisions about their social and mental health and welfare, as well as the health of those around them.



#### 7.SCHOOL TV

The School TV project is a website that monitors all the events taking place in the Arganil School Cluster, organised by the Arganil Secondary School TV Team.



#### 8. INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS - ERASMUS +

Erasmus + is the European Union Programme for education, training, youth and sport. The programme offers opportunities for studying, training, gaining experience and volunteering abroad. The Arganil School Cluster has obtained accreditation until 2027 in the area of school education and in the area of vocational education and training, which allows it to develop international mobility projects for pupils and staff.



#### 9. CINEDITA – ARGANIL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

Cinedita is an independent short film festival that is part of the National Cinema Plan\*, whose goal is to make the region a driver in the disclosure of cinematographic activities by amateurs and authors in the academic area all over the country.



#### \*National Cinema Plan

Set up in 2013, the National Cinema Plan (PNC) is a joint initiative by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and the Ministry of Education and Science and it is run by the Cinema and Audiovisual Institute, the Cinemateca Portuguesa and the Directorate-General of Education.

The goals of the PNC are the development of cinematographic literacy and publicising national works among the school audience. In addition to promoting activities such as "The cinema is waiting for you", the organisers also provide a general list of films to the schools registered in the project.

Throughout the school year, the Arganil School Cluster promotes a number of activities aimed at getting people into the habit of watching and appreciating cinema as an art, a way of learning, expression and aesthetic communication.

#### 10. 100% PROJECT - PREPARE YOUR FUTURE

The 100% project arose from a partnership with local companies and its goal is to award scholarships to underprivileged pupils who want to go on to higher education and to support young people who have completed secondary school in their integration into the labour market.















### 11. ECO SCHOOLS

This is an internationally coordinated programme aimed at environmental education, sustainability and citizenship. It is a project developed by the school cluster in partnership with the Municipal Council in terms of improving environmental performance and making everyday life at school and in the entire educational community more sustainable.



#### 12. SCHOOL SPORT

School Sport comprises all the sporting activities done as a complement to the curriculum and in free time activities.



#### 13. ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The "Entrepreneurship in Schools in the Coimbra Region" programme, promoted by the Intermunicipal Community in partnership with the municipality of Arganil, promotes a spirit of initiative, cooperation and creativity, giving schoolchildren real experience in the area of entrepreneurship.



#### 14. ESCOLIADAS

The goals of this event are to promote Art Education and to appreciate art as a privileged means of educating, fostering and providing artistic experiences to the target audience, stimulating synergies between schools, artistic entities and local agents and raising awareness among new audiences of the different areas of artistic activity, promoting citizenship and active participation.

### 15. EMÁTICOS

This is a team of students who take part in different national competitions related to mathematics (National Maths Games National Mental Arithmetic Championship, Championship, Portuguese Maths Olympics, Mathematical Kangaroo, Pangea, 3D Challenge, National Science Competitions).



#### 16. SCHOOL LIBRARY PROJECTS

**LER+ Mar** has the sea as its context and is aimed at developing ocean literature. This project challenges schools to look for literary, scientific or historical reading strategies, in coordination with different curricular areas, in order to create an appealing final product.



**LER+ JOVEM** is a challenge for secondary school pupils to stimulate their taste for reading and writing by organising campaigns in the community.



**SOBE** is aimed at implementing strategies for promoting reading and writing, integrating the subject of oral health into school curricula in preschool and primary school.



**LER+ QUALIFICA** is aimed at the adult population going through Recognition, Validation and Certification of Competencies (RVCC) processes, Adult Education and Training Courses (EFA) or Modular Training (CB, FM and PFOL), in order to develop and reinforce reading and writing habits and develop functional and instrumental reading literacy in adults.



"Learning with the School Library" for the development of media, reading, information and digital literacy through coordinating the curriculum with the school library.



**Digit@l Citizenship @ the School Library** is aimed at supporting the digital aspect of class projects.



"Stories of AJUDARIS" is aimed at great little writers, under the guidance of teachers and staff, becoming creators of enchanting stories on subjects such as solidarity, relationships, citizenship, the environment and other values that are particularly important. Producing collective texts based on a specific subject for participation in a national competition.



**"10 Minutes Reading"** is a reading for pleasure project aimed at all the pupils in the Arganil School Cluster. All classes stop for 10 minutes each week for reading for pleasure, according to a timeline established, involving all subjects and subject areas.



"Radio on the Air with the School Library and Pre-School" is a monthly radio programme based on pre-school curricular subjects and on cooperative work methodologies between the School Library, the pre-school department, families and Arganil Radio Club. It was awarded the Best Practices prize by the School Library Network.



#### 17. TURMAIS

The aim of the TurMais Project is to improve classroom behaviour and thus the educational success of the pupils.



#### 18. BILINGUAL SCHOOLS NETWORK

The Arganil School Cluster has been part of the Bilingual Schools Network since 2017/2018. The aim of the network is to encourage children/pupils to learn English, bringing them into contact with language assistants.

### 19. ILÍDIO PINHO PROJECT

The schools in the cluster have presented this project from a multidisciplinary perspective, involving different curricular areas through the integration of different areas of learning, where the levels of creativity and innovation, as well as their social impact, their implementation potential and the value of the idea are important selection factors.



#### 20. JORGE PAIVA PRIZE

Each year, the children/pupils in the school cluster are challenged to develop projects and/or activities with a practical implication, on a multidisciplinary basis, mobilisina curricular areas for their development. These projects involve them in nature awareness and preservation activities, through critical reflection, experiences and group projects, allowing them to assess the importance of knowledge for changing people's behaviour, attitudes and nature preservation values in the present, which is already the future.



## 21. PROJECT PEPA: PROJECT PEPA-GERMAN SCHOOL PILOT PROJECT

The Arganil School Cluster has signed a cooperation agreement with the German school pilot project (PEPA). The agreement was signed by the Goethe-Institut Portugal, the Directorate-General for Education, the Directorate-General for Schools in Mainland Portugal and the Portuguese Association of German Teachers. Part of Project PEPA this school year.

#### 22. ARTS AND IDEAS CLUB

This project helps pupils to develop an artistic spirit and encourages them to learn about and enjoy artistic activities and handicrafts.



#### 23. MUSIC CLUB

The Music Club was able to achieve full occupancy by the pupils in the school, making it possible for them to learn how to do different things and how to become integrated into the community. The importance of appreciating the role of music in the construction of the human being was a challenge for all the classes. The main goal of the Music Club for the pupils is to promote creativity, autonomy, self-confidence and showing initiative.

#### 24. LIVING SCIENCE CLUBS

These clubs are areas of knowledge that are open to and aimed at the entire educational community, including families and the local community, in order to promote access to innovative scientific practices. The club will contribute to learning more about different areas of knowledge, as well as the development of the Pupil Profile at the end of compulsory schooling, fostering the interconnection between the different school cycles and the different courses taught in the school cluster. The Serra do Açor Protected Landscape area, which includes the Mata da Margaraça nature reserve, will be a priority in terms of future campaigns organised by the club and operating in Arganil Middle School.

**The** *PROBOTICAR* **Living Science Club** (devoted to Robotics and Programming) will be operating in 2022/2023 for pre-school and primary school pupils, based in Arganil Kindergarten and Primary School. The **Entrepreneurship Living Science Club**, focusing on the production of natural soaps (under the name **ECBN – ECO COJA BIO NATURAL**) targets a middle school audience and will be operating in 2022/2023 in Professor Mendes Ferrão School.

#### 25. CHARITY/VOLUNTEERING PROJECTS

- Ajudaris;
- Food Bank;
- Collecting items for the charity shop.

#### Awards won

- Seal of Digital Security Gold Seal
- EQAVET Seal Vocational Education Guarantee
- Healthy Seal
- Healthy School Seal
- PROTECT SEAL awarded to the Arganil School Cluster

### 7. Specialised Services

- Psychology and School Guidance Services
- Specialised staff through an agreement with institutions and services: Speech Therapy, Physiotherapy, Hydrotherapy.

#### **SNIPI**

Under the scope of Early Childhood Intervention (IPI), with the participation of three teachers on the Local Intervention Team (ELI), covering the municipalities of Arganil and Góis.

The mission of SNIPI is to ensure Early Childhood Intervention (IPI) for children aged under six, through a set of integrated support measures focused on the child and the family, including preventive and rehabilitation campaigns in the area of education, health and social action.



### **CENTRO QUALIFICA**

The Arganil School Cluster's Centro Qualifica (CQ) began operating on 4 September 2017, with the goal of providing a response to different audiences that need to improve/add to their qualifications. People are guided towards training courses suited to their specific situation.

The activity of CQ is aimed at adults aged 18 or over who want to gain or improve their qualifications and, exceptionally, young people who are not studying or on training courses and are not yet working.

At the moment, CQ is operating out of Arganil (Arganil Secondary School), Tábua (Volunteer Fire Brigade), Côja (primary school) and Pombeiro da Beira (Parish Council Facilities).



# 8. Projects developed by the municipality of Arganil

### a) Arganil Municipal Swimming Pool

Free swimming lessons are provided for children and young people, making this an excellent educational tool as a response for promoting their cognitive and socio-affective skills and thus improving school performance.

### b) School Library Support Service

This is organised by Arganil Municipal Library through the development of a variety of activities, based on the technical support provided, holding debates, promoting reading and sharing ideas, etc.

### c) School Fair Activities with Children and Young People

During the school holidays (Easter, summer and Christmas), the municipality of Arganil has a diverse holiday programme aimed at young audiences aged between six and twelve, where challenges and cooperation are the main focus, promoting the active development of psychosocial skills, learning new things of an entertaining, cultural, sporting and recreational nature and fostering cooperation and relationships between our children and young people.

### d) Summer University, Junior Summer School and Explorers

- The Summer University and the Junior Summer School allow for experimentation with a number of educational/scientific activities in different areas of knowledge, as well as cultural and sports activities, with the aim of promoting greater interconnections with the city of Coimbra, but mainly to provide experience in the context of higher education.
- The "Explorers" programme is an Education and Environmental Awareness programme aimed at the school community and at the people of the municipality of Arganil, promoting the active participation of pupils and the community in general in adding value to the territory. This is done through their involvement in a number of intangible actions and to instil in them the principles, values and skills needed to promote behavioural change and make them aware of the need for preservation and sustainable valorisation of the natural and environmental resources in the area, particularly those associated with the Serra do Açor Protected Landscape ecosystem.

### e) Arganilíadas and Junior Arganilíadas

A free sporting event aimed at primary school pupils in this municipality. The sporting activities include athletics, 5-a-side football, traditional and educational games and other sports.

Junior Arganilíadas, introduced for the first time in 2018, allow pre-school children to practise their motor skills, coordination, agility and balance, speed and overall motor skills, spatial perception and directionality.

### f) Feed + in Arganil

Developed through a partnership between the municipality of Arganil, the Step by Step Association, the Arganil School Cluster, the Pinhal Interior Norte Cluster of Health Centres and supermarkets, it is aimed at minimising food shortages among families in the municipality through the prevention of food waste in school canteens and using all the surplus food from supermarkets.

## g) Intermunicipal Plan for the Prevention of Early School Leaving and the Promotion of Educational Success in the Coimbra Region

Promoted by the Coimbra Region Intermunicipal Community, in association with the municipality of Arganil, there is a multidisciplinary team to support pupils, beginning at pre-school, with specialised services in the areas of music, English, the performing arts and sport.

### 9. Rights and Duties of Pupils

### **Internal Regulations of the Arganil School Cluster**

- 1 Benefiting from quality teaching and education, as provided for by law, under conditions of effective equal access opportunities.
- 2 Under the applicable legal framework, for themselves or through their parents or guardian if minors, choosing and benefiting from the Educational Project that provides the best opportunities for full physical, intellectual, moral, cultural and civic development in order to shape their personalities.
- 3 Having access to educational resources and materials suitable to taking full advantage of their schooling.
- 4 Knowing about the programme content of the different subjects, their goals and the assessment process.
- 5 Attending regularly and punctually and being committed to all their duties under the scope of school activities.
- 6 Treating all members of the educational community correctly and with respect and under no circumstances discriminating against anybody due to their ethnic origin, health, gender, age, gender identity, economic, cultural or social background or political, ideological, philosophical or religious beliefs.
- 7 Respecting the authority and the instructions of the teachers and other staff.
- 8 Caring for the preservation, conservation and tidiness of the facilities, educational material, furniture and green spaces in the school and using these correctly.
- 9— Wearing clothing that is appropriate to their age, the dignity of the space and the specific nature of school activities and respecting the rules established in the school.

### 10. Useful contacts

Main School in the Arganil School Cluster (ESA)

Av. das Forças Armadas, Apartado 8, 3300-011 Arganil

**S** 235 200180

www.esarganil.pt

Professor Ferrão Mendes Middle School, Côja 🕓 235 721 32

Côja Fire Brigade S 235 721 122

Arganil Municipal Council S 235 200 150

Health Centre Q 235 200 100

Arganil Guarda Nacional Republicana police S 235 200 520

Civil defence emergency number (S) 117

Arganil Secondary School S 235 200 180

Portuguese Victim Support Association (APAV) Coimbra Office S 239 781545/6

Arganil Commission for the Protection of Children and Young People (CPCJ) S 235 200144



### **Arganil School Cluster anthem**

#### The Power of Belief

Through deep valleys Amidst dreams and laments This our school cluster Is firmly established. Pre-school or secondary school The road is true, From all our parishes We take in pupils.

Our young people are the pride
Of this our school cluster
Through hard work and commitment
They seek knowledge.
Yesterday, today and tomorrow
Develop your profile.
Advancing this land
Begins in the schools of Arganil.

We will succeed together, Nobody will stop us, The solution to your problems Is the power of belief. Our schools, Such a valuable asset, Each day ensuring A sure and promising future!

At school desks today
Tomorrow, who knows?
Sure only of nostalgia
For the time spent here.
They are the future, they are wealth,
A myriad ideals and dreams,
Little ones that grow
In the schools of Arganil.

We will succeed together, Nobody will stop us, The solution to your problems Is the power of belief. Our schools, Such a valuable asset, Each day ensuring A sure and promising future!

Lyrics by: Daniel Gonçalves, Eulália Nunes, Graça Moniz and Maria Helena Ramos Music by the Progresso Pátria Nova Philharmonic Association









APOIADO POR:









