

# THE EUROPEAN FOOD PASSPORT PROJECT

## SCHOOL PROFILE

**COUNTRY:** Portugal

**Name of School:** APPACDM de Viana do Castelo

**Head teacher:** Manuel Domingos

**Co-ordinator:** Julio Viana (Areosa -> José Duarte Barbosa)

**Number of students:** 700 aproximadamente (Areosa - > 140)

**Age of students:** 3 - 38 (Areosa -> 6-38)

### **Brief Description of School**

**APPACDM – Associação Portuguesa de Pais e Amigos do Cidadão Deficiente Mental** is a Portuguese association founded 38 years ago by parents and friends situated all over the Minho region (Viana do Castelo district). It caters for about 700 pupils in five different types of centre: 1 Kindergarten, 4 Occupational Activity Centres, 3 Training Centres, 3 Educational Centres and 1 Sheltered Employment Centre. APPACDM was constituted as a Resource Centre to support mainstream education as a result of the new educational changes recently adopted by the government. This district is in a very poor region of Portugal with a very high level of people with learning difficulties. We are also experiencing inward migration which also presents certain challenges to our community. Within Viana there are a number of gipsy communities. Many members of these communities live in the care of the local authority. This project will work with students who attend the APPACDM's Educational and Training Centre in Areosa. There are 56 students aged 15+ with special needs (moderate and severe learning difficulties, with challenging behaviour and with some physical disabilities). The young people come mostly from very low social economic backgrounds. Their families/carers have traditionally worked in the agricultures, construction industry, or are members of a large community of the long term unemployed. A number of our pupils are looked after children; living in either care or with foster families

### **brief Description of town/region**

**City of Viana do Castelo**

**Northwest region of Portugal**

<http://www.anmp.pt/munp/mun/mun101w3.php?cod=M4900>



**It's a nice town embraced by the mountain of Sta Luzia and the Lima's river, near the Atlantic Ocean.**

**Main activity: Services**

**Few industries;**

**Nice and agreeable people;**

**Many leisure places;**

**Good food and wine.**

**Main distances by car:**

**40 mins from Porto;**

**3:30 H from Lisbon**

**6:00 H from Madrid**

**school Comenius Co-ordinator**



**Julio Viana**