# acquarela

### PHILOSOPHY

What Acquarella is and what you can do in Acquarella

Acquarella is an educational center, where we give the family the assistance for the amazing and complex adventure of growing up a baby.

It's a wellness place for the baby and his family where the size of relations (relations between the baby, his family, the teachers and the environment) is edited and placed in the middle of the school's actions, trough indications, small advices and suggestions, both for parents and children.

Without doubt it's not a place for swim training, but somewhere where you can enjoy learning how to swim. It doesn't fit whit our teaching/learning model to give technical notions about how to swim or float unless children ask for it; in fact we believe that to feel Accompanied, Supported, Protected, Stimulated, both by parents who participate to the activity and teachers that run it, has got very positive effects.

So it's not about bringing the baby to attend a course..., but coming together whit the baby to participate to an activity that surely will make him more confident and sure about his capacities and potentialities as a person. And it' is exactly this awareness that makes him strong enough to undertake new skills, even aquatic skills.

The activities that we propose are based on skills that children already have and so are ready to be used; it's the baby's natural progressive inclination that makes him look for something new to do, for example taste the water, try to wet his face, dive, float, or check out the physical effects of the water in "water pouring"..., activities, detected by teachers and repeated in a richer and enhanced way, that inevitably lead to the acquisition of new aquatic elements.

The child's interests in the activity are an important base where our proposals stand; the more interesting something is, the faster you learn it and most of all you'll never forget it. So we give a large space to activities of spontaneous games between children or child and parents

Safety's concept is extremely related to the peaceful and successful progressing of the activity; the small accident's prevention goes from the hand to the respect of the center's rules, rules that help the baby to become part of the small group and then, active part of society.

Because of this, swimming becomes an art, an expression that's strictly related to the subjectivity, to the pleasure of moving, to the child's very personal modalities. Swimming as a result of a job made with the family, with big satisfactions and pleasures for what has been reached through the sharing of this intense life experience. An experience that's extremely colored by love and respect for the baby as a person.

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### THE CENTER

## Our center is exclusive for children. It's not attended by schools and no other activities are organized.

The atmosphere is peaceful and friendly in order to make babies re-found domestic peace to which they are used to. The other spaces, small, suitable for children, recreate those characteristics typical of places already known by children.

Spaces' Cleaning standards are great and respond to logical maintenance that takes into account critical points of the center from the hygienic and sanitary point of view (pavements, benches, changing tables, pool, toilets, showers, pool sides, small games, etc..) The pool's implant was planned in accordance with the last UNI regulations for pools(UNI...2006); It has got automatic control machines for chemicals parameters in the pool's water and these parameters (free chlorine and Ph) are also manually controlled by us one every two hours. We make other microbiological checks of pool's water to check water's quality every month.

The daily water's change (pool's water that's eliminated and substituted with new water from the aqueduct) is the 20% of the pool's water, maneuver that makes the quality's standard of pool's water higher.

The implant has been recently equipped with a UV rays lamp that cooperates in the disinfection of pool's water reducing at the same tame the negative effects of chlorine on mucosal (Ex.: red eyes for excess of combined chlorine), the final result is a high quality increment of the pool's water.

The temperature in the pool and changing room's area are about 32° and the water's temperature is about 32° as well.

The center has got a document of risks' valuation (regionally asked by the ASL), in order to prevent risky hygienic and sanitary situations.

To complete this organization protection hygienic and sanitary, we ask the activity participants a medical certificate (one year validity). Participant parents must also keep updated the dermatological control made in Acquarella, one every two months, to complete all the regulations that make our implant safe for children.



## COURSES ORGANIZATION *The family's participation*

to the activities is essential

School is opened from September to July, the only pause is in August.

Acquarella receives children from 0 to 8 years old.

There's not courses' beginning and you can start in every moment of the year.

In a group there are children of same age and they can come once or twice a week, it depend on the group's availability. There's a maximum of ten children in a group.

In case of families with more than one child, we prefer to give them the opportunity to frequent together the same group more than privilege the age homogeneity.

It's also in our philosophy the systematical frequency at the school and so there is no "free entrance", being the pool's utility exclusive for children.

*The frequency is in predefined days and hours.* 

The family's participation to the activities is essential and parents participate together with the children as long as children don't have aquatic and emotional autonomy (about five years old).

Courses are 60 minutes long.

### SONGS Songs are for us a very important pedagogical resource.

They are an essential part of every course, both with the youngest and "oldest".

They are perfect to create an receptive environment, optimistic and happy, premise that's necessary to accost new learning.

There are songs to cuddle, song to keep moved, to start and end the session; songs to re-found peace.

Once families get them they become part of their repertoire end so their utility is beyond the ambit, remaining indelibly in the baggage of family resources.

So songs are used during car's journeys, on the beach, to make time go faster while waiting, to go to bed...

At this point songs become a common heritage and so we propose them to you in text form so that all family's components can learn them

#### Enjoy!

#### Acquarella

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