

# Milan Teachers' Conference Innovations in Teaching Children & Teenagers

## March 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> 2009

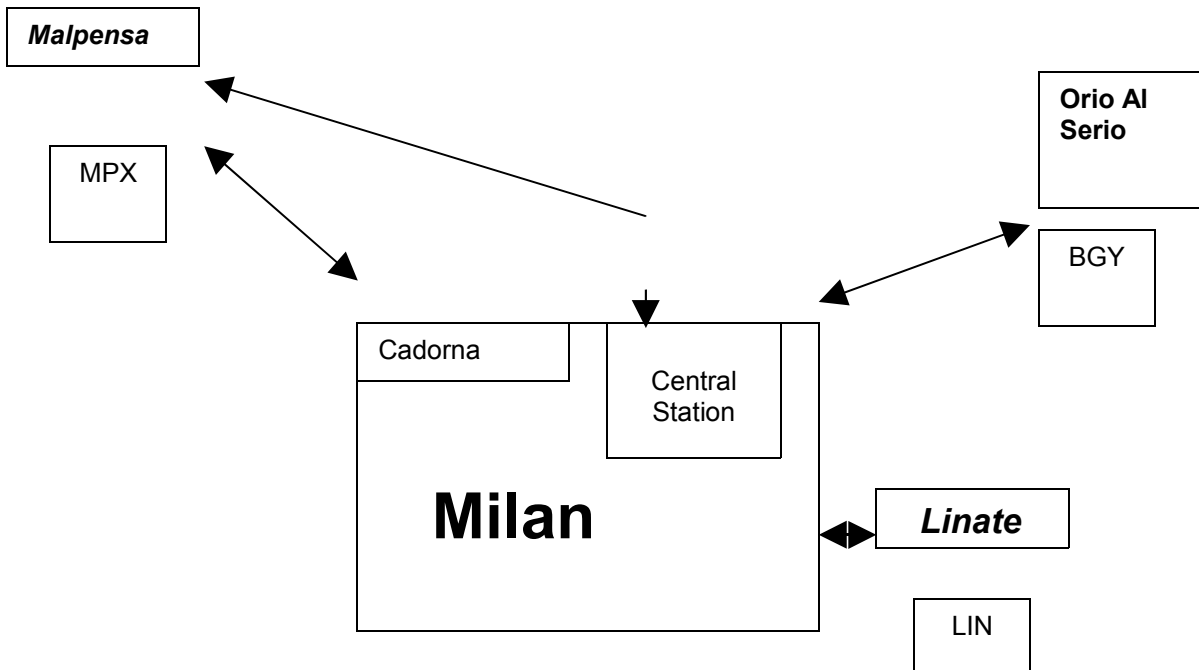
Sessions from 9.15 to 18.30

Venue: *Centro Congressi FAST p.le R Morandi 2 20121 Milano*

### 1. Arrival

The conference will start at 9.30am on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. If you don't want to miss the start you will probably need to arrive on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### 2. Getting from the Airport to the City



**Arrival by air** will be **Malpensa (MPX)**, **Linate (LIN)** or **Orio Al Serio (BGY)** as indicated on your ticket. Malpensa is 50 kms or about an hour from Milan, Linate is just 7km from Milan city centre, and Orio Al Serio is near Bergamo (about 40 kms, one hour from the city centre). Check your ticket carefully to see where you will arrive, as many airlines use more than one airport.

#### **Getting to/from Malpensa (MPX):**

Malpensa has 2 terminals. Terminal 1 is the smart new one where the main carriers fly from; cut-price carriers often fly from the old terminal 2. There is a bus connecting them every 10 minutes. It leaves terminal 2 from departures and arrivals, and from terminal 1 from stop 2 outside arrivals, or outside door 13 at departures.

The Malpensa Shuttle bus runs between Milan Stazione Centrale and Malpensa Terminals 1 and 2. It costs about 8 Euros one way. The journey takes about one hour.

The Malpensa Express train runs between Cadorna (also called the Stazione Nord) and Terminal 1. Tickets cost about 11 Euros one way. Trains leave Malpensa every 30 minutes. The journey takes about 45 minutes.

Taxis have meters and will not usually try to rob you, but they are expensive: approximately 90 Euros. They take about 40 minutes to reach the city centre.

**For more information on the Malpensa Express Train** <http://www.malpensaexpress.it/>

#### **Getting to/from Linate (LIN):**

There is a shuttle bus linking Linate to the Stazione Centrale every 20 minutes.

City bus no.73 runs from the airport exit to downtown e.g. piazza San Babila underground station in 25 minutes; departures are every 10 minutes and tickets costs about 2 Euros. You can buy tickets from newsstands and tobacconists. The 73 bus has special luggage racks.

Taxis to the city centre will cost approximately 15-20 Euros (depending on traffic) and are an option if time is pressing.

#### **Getting to/from Orio Al Serio (BGY):**

Bus from Milan Stazione Centrale (AIR TERMINAL) to ORIO Airport

Taxis are prohibitively expensive.

If you plan to travel to conference by car or by train please contact David Fryatt at the Milan centre and he will send you details. Email [david.fryatt@britishcouncil.it](mailto:david.fryatt@britishcouncil.it)

### **3. Accommodation.**

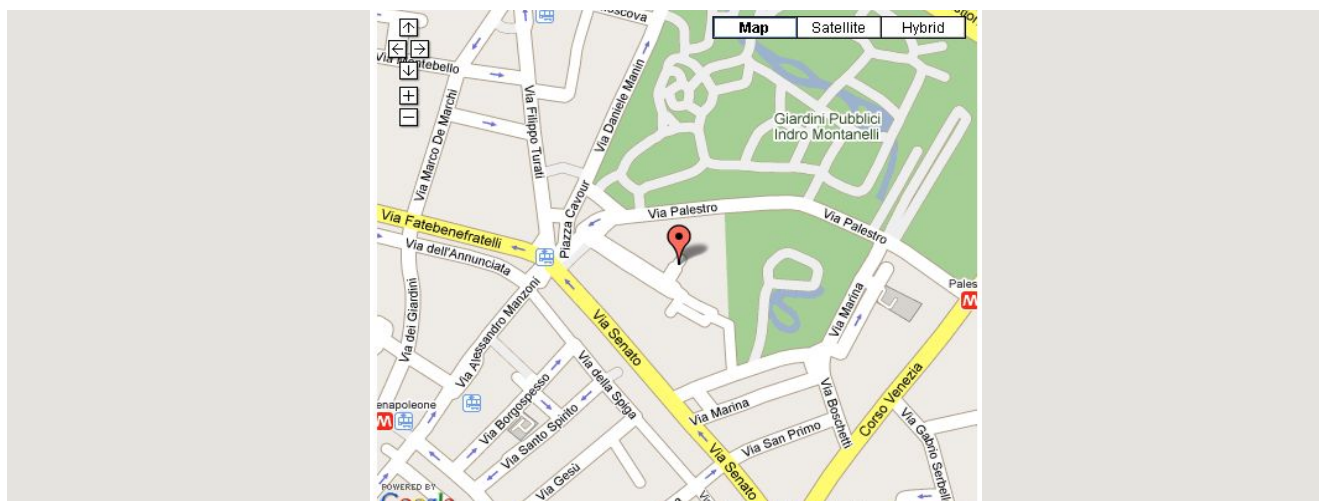
Milan has a very wide range of accommodation options but remember it is an expensive city and hotels are certainly not cheap. There are extremely elegant hotels very close to the conference centre but they are for people for whom money is no object. If cost is a factor in your choice, you are better off staying outside the centre of town. Public transport in Milan is excellent and a suburban hotel near a metro station is unlikely to be much more than 20 minutes from the conference centre.

There are a number of websites that have cheap offers on Milan hotels. The following website has a good range. [http://en.venere.com/hotels\\_milan/](http://en.venere.com/hotels_milan/) Please book early, as prices can rise sharply and there are other events in Milan at the same time as our conference. Do check on the location to make sure that your hotel is well served by public transport. The following website offers good maps of Milan <http://www.tuttocitta.it/>

Please note that the British Council is not able to book hotels on behalf of conference participants.

### **4. The Conference centre**

The conference will take place at the FAST Conference centre p.le R Morandi 2 20121 Milano. This is just off Piazza Cavour which is easily accessible by public transport. From Piazza Cavour walk down Via del Vecchio Politecnico, between the Swiss Chamber of Commerce Tower and the La Stampa building. The FAST Conference Centre is at the end of the road, on your right



## 5. Public Transport.

The centre is served by both the red and yellow metro lines (Palestro stop (red line) and Turati and Montenapoleone (yellow line), by bus lines 94 and 61 and by tram 1 and 2 (all at Cavour stop)

Public transport tickets are €1 for a single journey or €3 for a one day pass. You must however buy your ticket before travelling. For details on the Milan transport system go to the ATM website by following this link [www.atm-mi.it](http://www.atm-mi.it)

## 6. Practicalities

**Visas:** Please check your visa requirements for Italy well in advance of travelling. Letters of invitation are available on request.

From IATEFL email: [ellie@iatefl.org](mailto:ellie@iatefl.org) and

British Council email: [David.Fryatt@britishcouncil.it](mailto:David.Fryatt@britishcouncil.it)

### Climate.

The weather in Milan in late March is not suitable for sun bathing! It can be quite cold, especially in the evening, so remember to pack a jumper and a warm coat.

	Maximum	Minimum
Milan weather in March	13°C / 55°F	0°C / 32°

**Money.** There are plenty of banks and ATMs accept Visa and Mastercard. Credit cards are increasingly widely accepted. If you don't have time at the airport and arrive in Milan on the Malpensa Express, there is a very convenient change office at the end of the platform.

**Food.** What can we say about Italian food? Wonderful! All sorts of other cuisines are available – seek advice from the hotel or from us on arrival. If you are stuck and need to find a restaurant in the evening, the areas around via Brera, near the cathedral, (il Duomo), via Fara (near Piazza della Repubblica) and via Dante (in the centre) are good hunting grounds. There is a canteen in the conference centre but it is open to the public and is very busy at lunch time. There are a number of bars nearby which sell sandwiches etc. The price to take away is a lot cheaper than the sit down price. A meal in the conference centre costs about €10. A sandwich in a bar usually costs about €5. A pizza and a beer in a city centre pizzeria is unlikely to cost much under €20. If you are operating on a tight budget the best option is to look out for a supermarket and prepare your own lunch, but the conference centre is in a business district and is not well served by shops.

**Sights.** Milan has some secrets that few seem to be aware of before they arrive. Leonardo Da Vinci's 'Last Supper' is in the church Santa Maria delle Grazie (it's really hard to get tickets though), the Cathedral (il Duomo) is a huge gothic masterpiece, and the castle (il Castello Sforzesco) with adjoining Parco Sempione is a great place for a stroll before sunset.

**Language.** Milan is a very European city. Many people can get by in English if your Italian is not so hot.

**Mobile phones.** British and other GSM phones will work here (depending on your UK network arrangements); the big operators are TIM, Omnitel and Wind.

**Internet access.** Milan is a very wired city.

**Getting about.** Once you have arrived in Milan the easiest way to get about is by Metro. **The nearest stations to the conference centre are MONTENAPOLEONE and TURATTI on the yellow line and PALESTRO on the red line.** Buy tickets from news-stands and metro stations – they cost 1 Euro each and are valid on any bus, tram, or metro for 1 hour 15 minutes, (only one metro ride within the time given, but as many buses and trams as you like are included). In theory you need a separate ticket if you are taking large items of luggage on public transport. This is rarely enforced but it might be better to be safe than sorry. For short journeys with luggage, taxis are usually in plentiful supply. Longer journeys are very expensive.

Trams are slow but fun. Numbers 1 and 2 go to Paizza Cavour, a few minutes walk from the conference centre.

The city centre can be well covered on foot and it's quite safe to walk in central areas after dark.

NB: as in most big cities, it's best to keep an eye on handbags, laptops etc, especially when sitting in bars.

**Before you come.** Check out the following websites if you have the time and want to know more:

British Council Milan: [www.britishcouncil.it/milan](http://www.britishcouncil.it/milan)

Getting about in Milan: <http://www.atm-mi.it/ATM/eng/>

Map of the city: <http://www.citylightsnews.com/ztmimp2.htm>

Map of the Metro: <http://www.citylightsnews.com/ztmmp1.htm>

Malpensa & Linate: [www.sea-aeroportimilano.it](http://www.sea-aeroportimilano.it)

Orio Al Serio: [www.sacbo.it](http://www.sacbo.it)

Train fares & schedules to major destinations: [www.trenitalia.it](http://www.trenitalia.it)

The tourist newspaper "Hello Milan" [www.hellomilano.it](http://www.hellomilano.it) available in hotels can also be a useful source of local information.

We all look forward to welcoming you in Milan!

Best wishes,

*David Fryatt*

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