

The first mobility in a project is always very exciting. We all asked ourselves who we would meet, what kind of people they would be. For all four of our students, it was their first trip so far away and by plane. The hotel was impressive, the breakfasts even more so - everything was like magic for the boys.

The school in Istanbul is completely different from ours. Modern, very well equipped with equipment appropriate to disabilities. Tiny classrooms, at least two teachers per class, a huge assembly hall, canteen. The whole school is also equipped with multimedia equipment, iPads. Classes and how the school functions is a completely different reality. In many places you were not allowed to enter. We observed work in a special program where basic areas such as caring for themselves, feeding and developing basic motor skills were covered.

We visited several institutions and schools (not only special schools). We attended a meeting at the Ministry of Education.

We also found time to walk around Istanbul, Topkapi Sarayi and visit Hagia Sofia, the blue mosque, We looked for medusa heads in the Cistern of the Basilica, and drank real Turkish tea in small cracked glasses.

We visited several restaurants but the Tebessit restaurant, whose employees are people with Down's syndrome made a strong impression on us as employees are young people with Down's syndrome. Thanks to the encouragement of their carers, they are actively involved in work, are independent and earn money.

For our students everything was a new amazing experience. They made new friends from Slovenia and they stay in touch with them.

It was a very intense, inspiring time. We thank our Turkish partners for their incredible warmth and hospitality. We would very much like to return to Istanbul.

Polish Team



