



Italian

One year AS/Two year A level.

As the world gets smaller, Britain plays its part in the EU, holidaymakers travel the world and businesses become increasingly international, the ability to speak a European language is increasingly important. Competence in a language can significantly enhance your employability in many areas, from journalism to business, and employers respect the attention to detail and intellectual rigour which they know study of a language requires. Italy is a beautiful country with strengths in design, fashion, art and science. Through this course, we aim both to exercise your brain and to open your mind to the fascinating aspects of the Italian language, society and culture, in addition to giving you a skill that will be useful to you throughout your life.

Requirements:

The College minimum to start an advanced level course is one grade B and four grade Cs at GCSE. Students wishing to undertake this course require grade B or above in the language if taken at GCSE. The student will also be expected to meet the Average Points Score for this subject. Students with grade C in a Higher Paper may, in exceptional circumstances, be considered with Departmental approval. It is possible for talented linguists to start Italian at AS with a grade B or above in a related language (normally French or Spanish).

This subject will focus on:

- effective communication in conversations;
- reading and understanding texts;
- writing extended essays in the foreign language;
- listening to and comprehending the spoken language;
- how the language works; and
- the key social and cultural aspects of the relevant countries.

You can expect to:

- express ideas and opinions about key modern issues in written form;
- talk about important issues with your tutor and the language assistant in the target language;
- develop the ability to understand discussion of current affairs in the spoken and written language; and
- study two cultural topics in greater depth in the second year.

Method of assessment:

Assessment consists of two examinations at the end of each year of the course: for AS, an oral examination and a written examination covering the skills of listening, reading and writing and, for A2, an oral examination and an examination focussing on writing in Italian.

Progression:

Languages can be used these days in almost all areas of the working world; business, finance, teaching, translation, retail, civil service, international organisations.

Many university courses can also be combined with a language to give you that extra edge to your qualification.

Other information:

Regular trips are organised to an area similar to Havering on the outskirts of Milan. Students frequently go on to study Italian at university after completing the A Level course.

In the last two years, Italian has had a 100% pass rate.