



# IB Ab Initio Italian Upper 6th

## Curriculum Intent

The Italian department seeks to develop ambitious and resilient linguists who recognise their common humanity and strive to gain inter-cultural understanding and respect.

In this beginner's course, we aim to provide an understanding of Italian in a range of themes from social changes, and global issues which enable students to communicate effectively in authentic situations whilst appreciating its value in their future career paths. We intend to develop our students to be inquisitive and curious about culture, knowledgeable and understanding, open-minded and courageous as they personally develop through their learning of Italian.

*"A different language, is a different vision of life." Federico Fellini*

Students will learn:-

- A wide grammatical knowledge including language to use in a variety of purposes.

Remaining 2 out of the 5 IB themes:

- Human ingenuity
  - Entertainment
  - Transport
  - Entertainment
  - Technology
- Sharing the planet
  - The environment
  - Climate
  - Physical geography
  - Global issues
- Understanding and producing different text types

## Knowledge, understanding & Skills

- To extend the range and complexity of the language they use and understand in order to communicate.
- To understand and evaluate a wide variety of written and spoken authentic personal, professional and mass media texts.
- To speak and write at length, and with a purpose, in order to meet a wide range of communicative needs: describing, narrating, comparing, explaining, persuading, justifying, evaluating.
- To be able to initiate, maintain and close oral exchanges, displaying ability to adapt styles.
- To use a variety of strategies to maintain the flow of conversations and discussions on a variety of topics.
- To continue to develop knowledge of vocabulary and grammar, as well as conceptual understanding of how language works.
- To develop understanding of the relationship between the language and culture
- To develop deeper thinking through TOK Questions.

## How can you enhance your learning at home?

Amici Student Book, Workbook and audio files

### Reading

<https://www.almaedizioni.it/it/almatv/>  
[www.bbc.co.uk/languages/italian/talk/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/italian/talk/)  
[www.easyitaliannews.com](http://www.easyitaliannews.com)

### Grammar

<https://conjuguemos.com> <http://www.verbs-online.com/italian-verbs/italian-verbs.htm> <http://www.oneworlditaliano.com/>  
<http://www.iluss.it/>

### Listening

<https://onlineitalianclub.com/index-of-italian-listening-comprehension-exercises>

- Memrise
- Flipped learning
- Essay bank
- William Tweed Resources library
- Padlet

## What does excellence look like?

- Extensive knowledge of vocabulary across the 5 IB themes
- Confident use of Target Language
- Understanding of issues/themes/cultural or social contexts demonstrated through convincing interpretations and comparisons
- Consistent variation of grammatical structures, including in use of complex language, producing consistently articulate writing
- Consistently varied use of vocabulary, allowing ideas to be conveyed in a variety of different ways
- Appropriate use of text formats and style.
- Accurate language throughout resulting in consistently coherent writing and speech
- Any errors do not hinder clarity of communication

## How will we assess impact?

Our teaching encourages regular learning of key vocabulary and refinement of grammatical structures that are tested regularly. Vocabulary recall is developed via weekly 10-point tests. Teachers assess pupils less formally in class via the four skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. Pupils work collaboratively in pairs and groups to constantly improve their speaking skills, providing peer feedback.

Each half-term pupils take an assessment in test conditions during lesson time. In January of Upper Sixth pupils take a full-length IB-style examination, which helps to predict their final grade as accurately as possible and to offer the students an opportunity to experience the speed and attention to detail required in the examination. Students control the audio themselves for listening, within a set time limit. The final speaking examination will take place in February/March in which students explore the themes and demonstrate cultural understanding.

## International Opportunities

### Visits Programmes

- AES has a partner school in Saranno, Milan
- University visits or cultural day visits may be arranged.



### Within the curriculum

- 1-1 sessions with a volunteer Native Speaker to develop speaking skills and wider cultural understanding.
- The IB curriculum is designed to deepen understanding and appreciation of Italian culture and customs.
- Students are encouraged to research each theme beyond lessons and set work to ensure that they can draw on a wide knowledge of the culture and society.



### Wider Reading

Italian texts for beginners:

<https://lingua.com/italian/reading/>

101 free Italian short stories for beginners with slow audio:

<https://www.fluentsimple.com/italian-short-stories/>

*“Non puoi insegnare niente a un uomo. Puoi solo aiutarlo a scoprire ciò che ha dentro di sé.”*

**Galileo Galilei**

*“You cannot teach a man anything. You can only help him discover it within himself.”*