

Structure & Specification

One year GCSE course.

Syllabus details

AQA 3631 is followed.

What does the course include?

This is a one year intensive course both for complete beginners and those of you who have already learnt a little Italian. It is based on developing the four important skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing – so that you can manage in everyday situations in an Italian speaking country.

At the end of the course you should feel confident in social situations be able to ask for information and things you need, go shopping and read notices. You will be able to use simple texts and write basic letters.

How will I learn?

The lessons are lively and active with lots of pair work and small group work to practise speaking. New topics are introduced through everyday situations with listening exercises, dialogue practice, reading and finally written exercises.

Outside lessons you are expected to practise dialogues, learn vocabulary and do short pieces of written work every week.

ICT is widely used in lessons. You will also improve your writing and listening skills through interactive exercises with the use of laptops. You are given the opportunity to develop your skills throughout the year.

How will my work be assessed?

There is no coursework. The GCSE examination is at the end of the academic year. There are two tiers: Foundation and Higher. You may be entered for different tiers of assessment for each of the four component skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing).

The decision about which papers you will do will be taken after the mock examinations

What skills will I need to be successful in this subject?

Above all you need to be committed, prepared to work hard and be reliable. You will also need excellent attendance and especially to have a love of the Italian speaking world, its language and culture.

What are the entry requirements?

The most important requirement is that you want to learn Italian!

Strong motivation is one of the keys to successful language learning and that is what we will be looking for.

Excellent attendance and weekly homework are essential to succeed on such an intensive course.

What are the opportunities after this course for further/higher education and employment?

Knowledge of foreign languages is a real asset in many jobs and can lead to exciting careers both in the UK and abroad. Italian is an important European language, widely used in the European Union countries.

After GCSE you could carry on to study Italian at A level or include it as an option at University.