

# Term 1 2026 - Italian Overview



## Foundation

The Foundation Italian Program introduces young learners to Italian language and culture through a variety of engaging and interactive tasks. Students compare the sounds of the Italian language with English sounds, noticing differences in pronunciation; for example, vowel sounds. Students learn basic greetings, expressions of politeness, personal introductions, and everyday vocabulary related to school life. They experiment with the sounds of the Italian language, progressing from simple sounds to frequently used words and phrases. Through classroom routines, songs, games, and guided shared activities students develop oral language skills. They understand that Italian is the national language of Italy. Culture is interwoven throughout the program providing a window into Italian traditions, everyday experiences and festivities. The goal is to nurture a love of the Italian language and culture from the beginning of their school journey.

## Year 1 Italian

In Year 1, the Italian program focuses on introducing students to the sounds and rhythms of the Italian language through immersive, play-based learning experiences. Students listen to, repeat and respond to familiar words and short phrases, building confidence with greetings, classroom instructions and expressions of politeness. There is a strong emphasis on functional classroom language, with extensive retrieval and recycling of familiar vocabulary to support fluency in this early phase of language learning. Students learn to introduce themselves, ask and respond to how they are feeling, and begin to explore simple Catholic religious words used in classroom and school contexts. Through songs, games, stories and cultural experiences, students also learn about Italy, its traditions and celebrations in engaging and meaningful ways.

## Year 2 Italian

In Year 2, students build on their prior learning by using familiar Italian language with increasing confidence and independence. Through ongoing retrieval and recycling of known language, students strengthen their listening and speaking skills and develop greater fluency in everyday classroom interactions. They continue to use functional classroom language, greetings and polite expressions, and extend their ability to talk about themselves and their feelings. Students are further introduced to Catholic religious vocabulary and expressions, supporting connections between language learning and faith life. Cultural learning continues through exploration of Italian traditions, celebrations and everyday life, with a continued focus on developing confidence and enjoyment in using Italian in purposeful contexts.

## Year 3 Italian

Students in Year 3 consolidate and extend their Italian language skills with a strong focus on functional classroom language. Learning is highly structured and scaffolded, emphasizing routine activities and regular retrieval practice to build a solid foundation. Students learn to greet others, introduce themselves, ask names, express politeness, talk about feelings, follow instructions and request permission. Students also learn key time-related vocabulary, including the days of the week, months of the year and seasons. Italian religious words are introduced in classroom and school contexts, and students explore Italian traditions, celebrations and borrowed words used in English.

#### **Year 4**

In Year 4, students build fluency by consolidating and extending familiar language through scaffolded instruction and routine classroom interactions. Students use Italian with increasing independence and confidence. They expand their use of classroom language to talk about themselves, their preferences and feelings. Students learn to follow instructions and request permission.

They are further introduced to the days of the week, months and seasons, and incorporate Italian religious vocabulary that supports links between language learning and faith. Students deepen their understanding of Italian culture by exploring daily life, traditions and celebrations, and further investigate the influence of Italian on English.

#### **Year 5 Italian**

In Year 5, students extend their prior learning in Italian through a structured program designed to support confident communication. Through extensive recycling of familiar language, students strengthen their use of greetings, polite expressions and classroom language to follow instructions, ask permission, express likes and dislikes, and talk about how they and others feel. Students are introduced to Italian religious vocabulary used in school contexts and participate in supported, student-led activities that provide opportunities for genuine interaction. Cultural learning is integrated through exploration of Italian customs, traditions and daily life.

#### **Year 6 Italian**

In Year 6, students consolidate and extend their Italian literacy through continued retrieval and reuse of familiar language to support greater fluency and independence. They ask and answer questions about how they feel and recognise that there are different ways of addressing people. For example, *Come stai?* (How are you? - Informal) and *Signora/Signore, come sta?* (Sir/Madam, how are you? - Formal). Students will be encouraged to engage in authentic communication by using polite requests and talking about their preferences. They follow instructions and understand when the teacher gives permission. They will create and present spoken and written texts using modelled sentence structures. Italian religious vocabulary will be incorporated, strengthening links between language learning and faith. Students further deepen their understanding of Italian culture, traditions and everyday life.