

Italian school system



It's never too late!

Education is an important part of Italian life.
There are hundreds of schools and universities.



Education is **free** and **compulsory** for all children between the ages of 6 - 16.



Education in Italy

It is divided into five stages:

- **Nursery school** (*scuola dell'infanzia*),
- **Primary school** (*scuola primaria*),
- **Lower secondary school** (*scuola secondaria di primo grado*),
- **Upper secondary school** (*scuola secondaria di secondo grado*)
- **University** (*università*).

Italy has both public and private education systems.

Curriculum

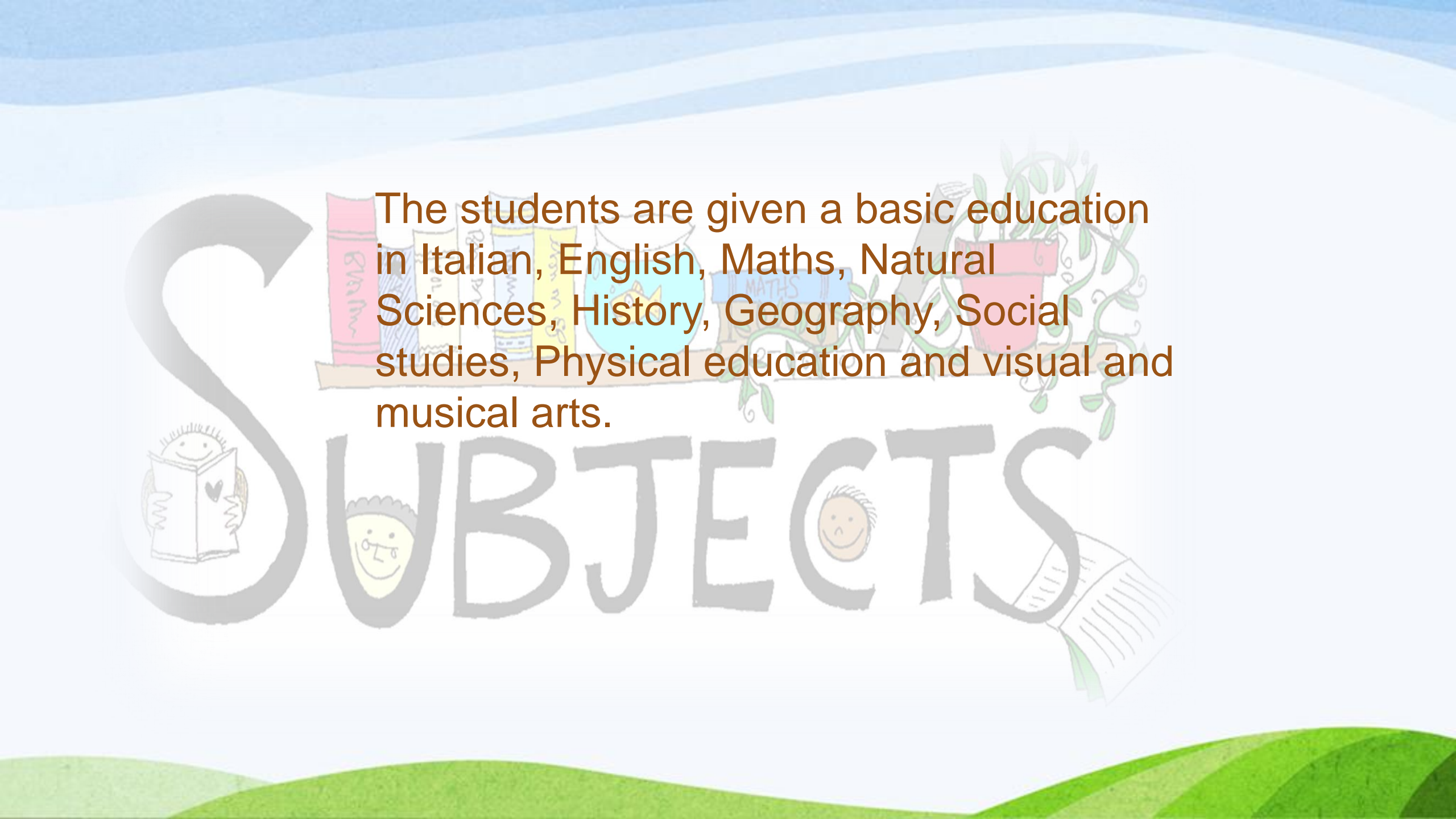
All state schools follow the same National Curriculum.





PRIMARY SCHOOL

Primary school, is commonly preceded by three years of non-compulsory nursery school . *It* lasts five years. Until middle school, the educational curriculum is the same for all pupils: although one can attend a private or state-funded school, the subjects studied are the same.



The students are given a basic education in Italian, English, Maths, Natural Sciences, History, Geography, Social studies, Physical education and visual and musical arts.

SUBJECTS

Secondary education

Secondary education is divided in two stages:

- **Scuola secondaria di primo grado** (*Lower secondary school*), or **Scuola media**, which corresponds to the Middle School grades;
- **Scuola secondaria di secondo grado** (*Upper secondary school*), or **Scuola Superiore**, which corresponds to the high-school level.



Scuola secondaria di primo grado ***Lower secondary school***

The *Scuola secondaria di primo grado* lasts **three years** (from age 11 to 13), and provides further education on the subjects studied at the *scuola primaria*, with the addition of Technology and a language other than English (Spanish or French). The curriculum is the same for all schools. At the end of the third year students sit an exam which enables them to continue their education.

Scuola secondaria di secondo grado **Upper secondary school**

The *Scuola secondaria di secondo grado* lasts **five years**

There are several types of schools differentiated by subjects and activities. The main division is between the *Liceo*, the *Istituto Tecnico* and the *Istituto Professionale*.

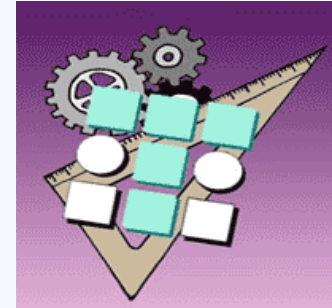
At the end of the final year, there is a final exam called *Esame di Maturità*, required to gain a diploma and have access to further education.



Types of Liceo

- **Liceo Classico:** its most important subjects are Latin, Ancient Greek, Italian, history and philosophy
- **Liceo Linguistico:** its most important subjects are modern foreign languages English, French, Spanish and German – although recently Russian, Arabic and Chinese have been introduced as well.
- **Liceo delle Scienze Umane** its most important subjects are pedagogy, anthropology, psychology, sociology, law, political economy and social research.
- **Liceo scientifico:** its most important subjects are mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, Earth science, Italian, Latin, history, philosophy, computer science and also drawing and art history.
- **Liceo Artistico** oriented toward arts teaching– both in a theoretical (i.e. art history) and practical (i.e. drawing sessions) way. Its subjects are painting, sculpture, decoration, graphics, design, audiovisual, multimedia, scenography and architecture
- **Liceo Musicale** its most important subject is music and teaches students to play an instrument.

Istituto tecnico ***Technical Institute***



The education given in a “*Istituto tecnico*” offers both a wide ***theoretical education and a technical specialization on a specified field of studies*** (economy, humanities, administration, law, accountancy, tourism), often integrated with a six months internship in a company, association or university, during the fifth and last year of study.

Istituto professionale ***Professional Institute***



The *Istituto professionale* is structured for practical activities, with the aim to facilitate the direct entry of the student to the labor market (engineering, agriculture, gastronomy, technical assistance, handicrafts).

The school offers a form of secondary education oriented towards practical subjects and enables the students to start searching for a job as soon as they have completed their studies

UNIVERSITY



Higher education in Italy now consists of a three-year bachelor's degree called the *laurea triennale*, which can be followed by the two-year master's degree (*laurea magistrale*, previously the *laurea specialistica*).

Exam Name	Credits	Vote
Fisica L-A	6	24
elettronica	9	28
Robotica	9	30
Inglese	12	20 L
Informatica	12	18
Logica Nef	6	30 L
-	1	0
-	1	0
-	1	0

There is a credit system in place to quantify the amount of work needed to pass each course (eg. 25 work hours = 1 credit), as well as an opportunity for students to change their course or continue their studies abroad after three years. Students wishing to study law must take the five-year *Laurea Magistrale a Ciclo Unico*, while medicine students must take a six-year degree.

The School Year

The school year runs from **September** to **June** and is **40** weeks long.

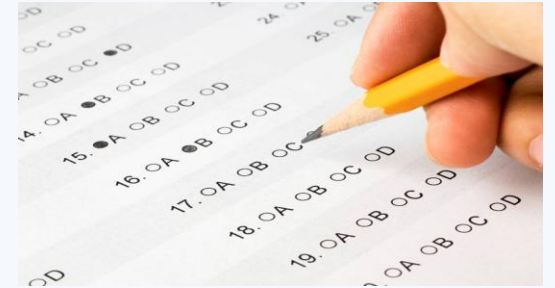
The year is divided into two terms:

- September to January

- February to June

The dates for school terms and holidays are decided by the local authority or the governing body of a school.

TESTING

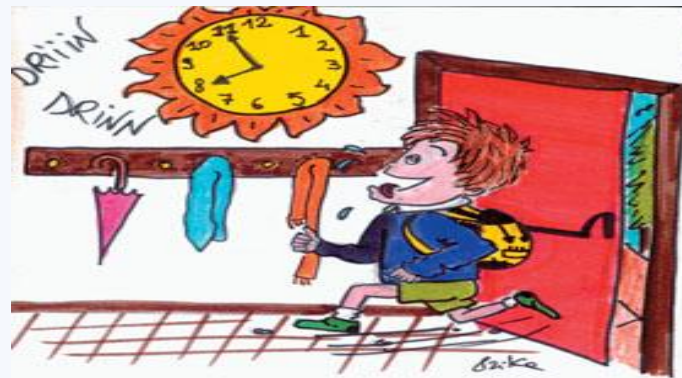


The Italian Government places great importance on the need to assess and test pupils in order to know what they have achieved. Compulsory testing takes place at the ages of eleven (last year of low secondary school) and eighteen (last year of high secondary school).

SCHOOL DAY

School usually starts at eight o'clock in the morning and finishes at about one o'clock in the afternoon

We have break time from 10:00 until 10:15. During break time, the children have a snack and go to the toilet.



School holidays

The main school holidays are:

- **Christmas** - 3 weeks
- **Easter**- 1 week
- **Summer** - 8 weeks

Holidays are also :

- *1st November*
- *8th December*
- *25st April*
- *1st May*
- *2nd June*

