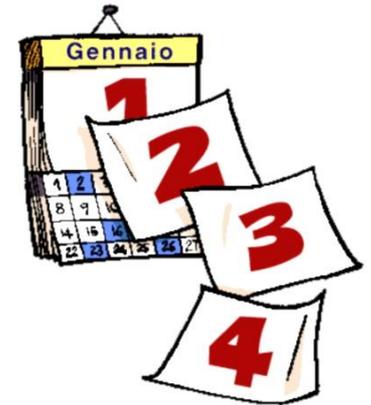
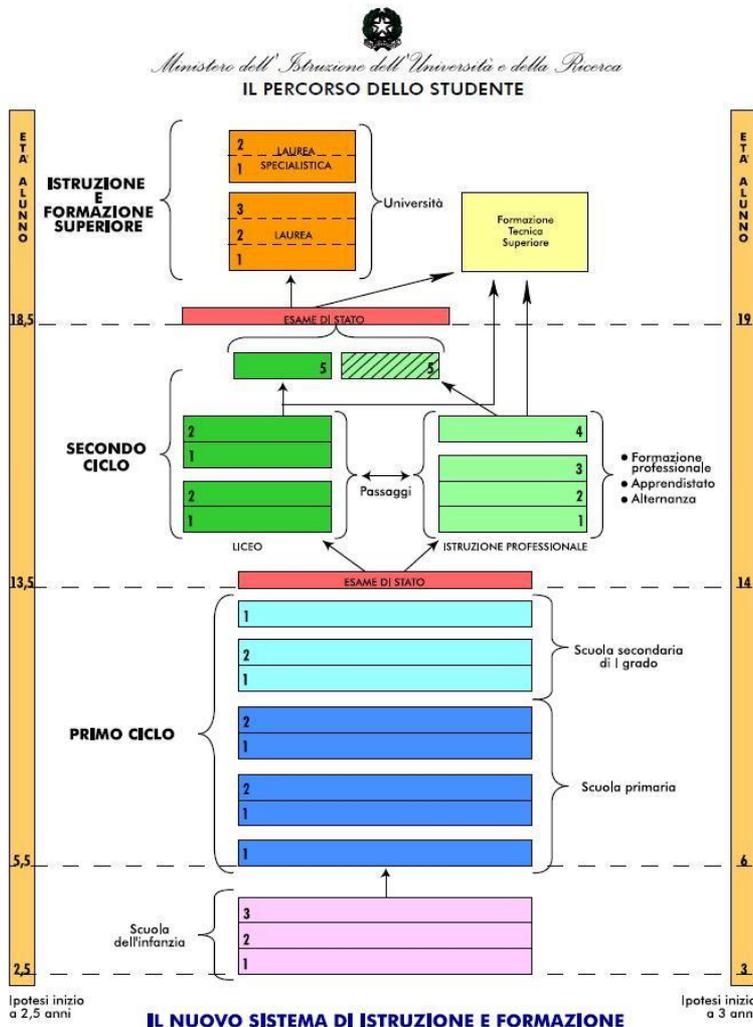




EDUCATION IN ITALY



ITALIAN SCHOOL SYSTEM

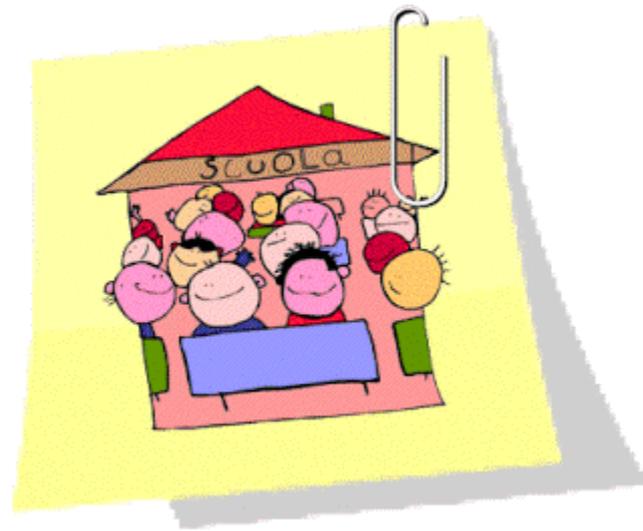


Italy has both public and private education systems, because education is mostly managed by the State but there are also private schools and universities. Free state education is available to children of all nationalities who are resident in Italy. Children attending the Italian education system can start with the Scuola dell'Infanzia also known as Scuola Materna (nursery school), which is non-compulsory, from the age of three.

Education in Italy is compulsory from 6 to 16 years of age, [and it is divided into four stages: , primary school (scuola primaria or scuola elementare), lower secondary school (scuola secondaria di primo grado or scuola media inferiore), upper secondary school (scuola secondaria di secondo grado or scuola media superiore) and university (università).]

Scuola Primaria (Primary School)

At age six, children start their formal, compulsory education with the Scuola Primaria also known as Scuola Elementare (Primary School). . Scuola Primaria lasts for five years. Classes at each level are numbered from one upwards. Thus, the first class in primary school is the prima elementare, followed by the seconda elementare and so on, until the fifth and final class (quinta elementare)At Scuola Primaria children learn to read and write and study a wide range of subjects including maths, geography, Italian, English and science. They also have music lessons, computer studies and social studies. Religious instruction is optional At the age of eleven pupils begin their Secondary education.



Scuola Media (Middle School)

Scuola Secondaria di Primo Grado (First Grade Secondary School)

All children aged between eleven and fourteen must attend the Scuola Secondaria di Primo Grado (First Grade Secondary School). Scuola Media lasts three years and classes are called prima media , seconda media and terza media Students must attend at least thirty hours of formal lessons per week, although many schools provide additional activities in the afternoons such as computer studies, music lessons and sports activities. Formal lessons cover a broad range of subjects following a National Curriculum set by the Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione, MPI (Ministry of Public Education). At the end of each term, students receive a school report. At the end of the third year, students sit a written exam in the subjects of Italian, mathematics, science and a foreign language. There is an oral examination of the other subjects. Successful students are awarded the Licenza di Scuola Media (Licenza Media). They then move onto the Scuola Secondaria di Secondo Grado (Second Grade Secondary School)

Scuola Superiore (High School)

Scuola Secondaria di Secondo Grado (Second Grade Secondary School)

There are two types of Scuola Secondaria di Secondo Grado in Italy: the Liceo (like a British grammar school), which is more academic in nature, and an Istituto, which is essentially a vocational school. For the first two years all students use the same state-mandated curriculum of Italian language and literature, science, mathematics, foreign language, religion, geography, history, social studies and physical education. Specialised courses, called 'Indirizzi' begin in the third year.

THERE ARE SEVERAL TYPES OF ITALIAN HIGH SCHOOLS:

Liceo Classico (Classical High School):

- It lasts for five years and prepares the student for university level studies. Latin, Greek and Italian literature form an important part of the curriculum. During the last three years philosophy and history of art are also studied.

Liceo Scientifico (Classical High School). It lasts for five years with an emphasis on physics, chemistry and natural sciences. The student also continues to study Latin and one modern language.

Liceo Artistico (Fine Arts High School):

- Studies can last four to five years and prepare for university studies in painting, sculpture or architecture.

Istituto Magistrale (Teacher Training School):

- Studies last for five years and prepare future primary school teachers. There is also a three year training course for nursery school teachers, but this diploma does not entitle students to then enrol at a university.

Istituto d'Arte (Artistic Schools):

- Studies last three years and prepare for work within an artistic field and leading to an arts qualification (diploma di Maestro d'Arte)

Istituti Professionali (Professional Institutes):

- These studies lead, in three or five years, to achievement of a vocational qualification.

Istituti Tecnici (Technical Institutes):

Studies last five years and prepare for both university studies and for a vocation. There is a majority of students in technical schools that prepare students to work in a technical or administrative capacity in agriculture, industry or commerce.





Classical High School



Scientific High School



Fine Arts High School



Teacher Training School

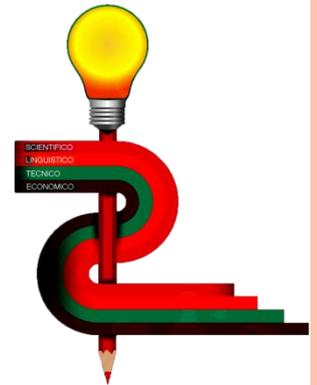


Istituto
Italiano
di
Cultura

Artistic Schools



Professional Institutes



Technical Institutes

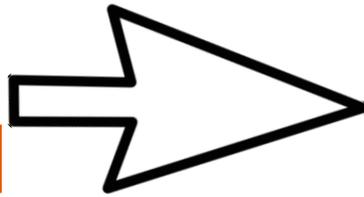


- In order to receive the Diploma di Scuola Superiore also known as the Diploma di Maturità (Secondary school diploma), students must pass written and oral exams. The first written exam requires an essay, written in Italian, on an aspect of literature, history, society or science. The second written exam requires the student to write a paper relating to their chosen specialisation. The third exam is more general and includes questions regarding contemporary issues and the student's chosen foreign language.
- After completing the written exams, students must take an oral exam in front of a board of six teachers. This exams covers aspects of their final year at school. Successful students receive various types of Diploma according to the type of school attended. The Diploma di Scuola Superiore is generally recognised as a university entrance qualification.
- Each school has a principal (dirigente scolastico in primary schools and preside in secondary schools), who's responsible for day-to-day management, co-ordinating school activities and establishing disciplinary sanctions. An important role is played by the school's consultative committee (consiglio d'istituto), made up of the principal, teaching and non-teaching staff, and (in secondary schools only) parents and pupils, who make decisions about the school's budget as well as organising teaching and extra-curricular activities. A teaching committee (collegio dei docenti) prepares a school's educational plans, including timetables and the choice of textbooks.

- There's also a class council (consiglio di classe) consisting of a panel of teachers, whose main task is to assess pupils' progress at the end of each term and decide on their promotion to the following year's class.
- An hour of religious studies per week is part of the curriculum of all Italian schools, although this isn't obligatory and parents may ask for their children to be exempted. The presence of disabled children in a class, provided they aren't too seriously disabled (mentally or physically), is considered a source of general enrichment. Disabled children are entitled to up to 12 hours' tuition per week with a specially qualified teacher (maestro di sostegno) and, where applicable, schools must provide lifts.
- Lessons in both primary and secondary schools traditionally last an hour, although schools now have the option of introducing 50-minute lessons and there's usually a mid-morning break of 20 minutes.
- Lessons at most secondary schools start at 8.15am and usually end at 1.30 pm.
- Children attend school for 200 days in the school year, which runs from mid-September to mid-June and is divided into three terms (trimestri). The regional school superintendence sets the calendar (calendario scolastico) for all state schools in the region. School holiday dates vary little between regions in Italy, although schools in Sicily start a few days later in September due to the hotter weather.
- University is available to all students if they have completed five years of secondary school and received an upper secondary school diploma. It is possible for students who have attended vocational schools to attend university.
- Those attending university after completing their Diploma di Scuola Superiore go for three years (four years for teaching qualifications) to achieve their Laurea (Bachelor's Degree) followed by the 2-year Laurea specialistica (Master's Degree), the latter renamed Laurea Magistrale in 2007. A credit system was established to quantify the amount of work needed by each course and exam (25 work hours = 1 credit), as well as enhance the possibility to change course of studies and facilitate the transfer of credits for further studies or go on exchange (e.g. Erasmus Programme) in another country.



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SCHOOL:
ITET DON
LUIGI STURZO**



WE ARE CREATIVE IN FACT....

