



Knowledge is Power

INFORMATION FOR
STUDENTS & PARENTS

Gladstone Park

ITALIAN IMMERSION



HOW IT WORKS

Immersion students at Gladstone Park experience the full breadth of the curriculum offered at our college while studying Mathematics, History and Geography in Italian.

During the Italian language classes students learn new vocabulary and grammar that will facilitate their understanding of the above mentioned subjects. The course is highly interactive and delivered by teachers trained in Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL).



BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM

Immersion has been widely implemented overseas and research has demonstrated that students exposed to this teaching approach:

- Are more stimulated and subsequently motivated
- Improve their literacy skills and develop a range of learning and critical thinking skills
- Achieve higher results in a variety of subjects compared to those students who are exclusively taught in English
- Acquire a great deal of the foreign language used, in our case Italian
- Develop a deeper intercultural understanding that enables them to appreciate the values of the community and become better global citizens.

LANGUAGE IMMERSION

Language Immersion, also known as CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning), is the most effective form of bilingual education, designed for students with high communication skills.

Gladstone Park is the first secondary school in Victoria to offer Italian utilising this methodology.

Immersion learning is significantly enriching and is a very common practice overseas, especially in Europe and in North America. Gladstone Park is proud to be a flagship school for CLIL, and routinely share our expertise and experience with other Victorian schools. Immersion is a revolutionary concept because, by enabling students to learn a language through content, as happens in real life, they experience to a more engaging and relevant process of language acquisition.

ITALIAN IMMERSION



IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL STUDENTS

Students best suited for the Immersion Program should display:

- *Excellent auditory & communication skills*
- *Curiosity and a wide range of interests*
- *Good interpersonal skills*
- *A high degree of creativity*
- *Good problem-solving skills*

Having exposure to a language in addition to English can be an advantage, however it is not essential. Curiosity, persistence and a willingness to try new things are more important.

SELECTION PROCESS

Students will attend an Italian elementary level lesson and subsequently sit a test examining their ability to retain the content previously taught in class.

We will also test their reading comprehension skills, mathematics, general scholastic aptitude, and students will complete a writing task. Students shortlisted for the program will be asked to attend an interview. Primary teachers may also be contacted to complete a confidential assessment form.

WHY AT GLADSTONE PARK?

We have the benefit of having several highly qualified Italian speakers among our teaching staff and offer Italian up to Year 12. We also have a well established exchange program 'Destinazione Italia' with an Italian secondary school.

Therefore, every two years, we organise a school trip to Italy which involves daily excursions and a teaching and learning exchange with our sister school in Reggio Emilia.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Education
and Training



Department of Education, The University of Melbourne & The Italian Government



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FURTHER INFORMATION

See contact details below if you would like to discuss this program further with: *The Junior School Principal or the Language Immersion Coordinator*. For important dates & application forms, see GPSC website.

