

## Becoming a Cambridge School - FAQs - ITALY

### FAQs

- 1) **Which schools can apply to become a Cambridge International school?** State, Private, Paritaria and International Schools, with government approval to offer an international curriculum.
- 2) **What is the ‘government approval’?** We need confirmation that your school is allowed to run International Programmes. In Italy State/Paritaria schools are completely free to do so thanks to the “Autonomia Scolastica”. Private and International schools are completely independent to run International Programmes if they wish. Cambridge will, however, ask your school to prepare a document stating that your school is a State/Paritaria/Private school and that it is permitted to offer international courses.
- 3) **How do I know if my school meets the requirement to become a Cambridge International School?** The guide “How to become a Cambridge International School”, available [here](#) on our website, is a document that will give you **detailed information** about each step of the application process but above all, it will help you to understand if your school meets the requirements to become a Cambridge International School.
- 4) **My school would like to offer some of the Cambridge IGCSE and A level subjects alongside with the National Curriculum. Where should I start from?** At this initial stage, it is important that you have a clear idea of the number and kind of subjects you would like to introduce in your school. It is also very important to assess whether your school has enough resources to implement the Cambridge IGCSEs or A levels subjects alongside the National curriculum. It is essential to download from our website the Syllabuses for each Cambridge IGCSE subject you are interested in. In the Syllabus you will find all the information you need about the programme to teach as well as the guidelines for the assessment.
- 5) **Where can I find the syllabus for the Cambridge IGCSEs and A level?** They are published on the Cambridge website at <http://www.cie.org.uk/programmes-and-qualifications/> alongside the Learner guide where applicable, past papers, examiner reports, specimen papers and mark scheme.
- 6) **What is a “Learner Guide”?** It is a guide designed for students to help them to prepare for the examinations. It is, however, very useful for teachers too.
- 7) **Who is in charge of the implementation with the National Curriculum?** The School will need to look at ways to implement the Cambridge programmes alongside the National Curriculum. The guide “Implementing the Curriculum with Cambridge” is available on our website and can assist with this. The school will also decide on the best teaching method, which will depend on your school’s circumstances – including your resources, teaching staff and lesson timetables. If you feel that you need additional guidance in this area, we may be able to put you in touch with other schools in Italy who successfully use Cambridge programmes alongside the Italian National Curriculum.
- 8) **Does Cambridge International Examinations provide teachers who are native speakers?** No. This is something that schools will need to find. Cambridge expects that Native Speakers who are teaching our programmes will also be subject experts.
- 9) **Do the native speakers need to have a degree in the subject they will teach?** We will leave you to evaluate their CVs but we would expect them to have evidence of a qualification in the subject.
- 10) **Are books included in the annual fees?** No. We are not publishing company but we would be delighted to share with you details of the various publishers for Cambridge programmes once you become a Cambridge International School.

11) **Do schools need a dedicated person for our Programmes and Qualifications?** Yes, at least one, the Exams Officer. Cambridge can support the training of this person so that they can become confident in administering our programmes and our examinations. We also recommend creating a group of teachers who will be involved in teaching the Cambridge qualifications. The Teacher Support Coordinator could assist this group.

12) **Do Italian Teachers need to have an English Language Proficiency Certificate?** No, but they will need to be at least B2 of the CEFR. We will not require certification of this, but it is highly recommended.

13) **Once the School becomes a Cambridge International School, do you provide training for the teachers?** Yes, we do. We offer some free training online, and face-to-face training at an additional cost. We do not provide any English language training.

14) **Who pays the fees?** The school will be asked to pay an initial Application fee which includes the approval visit fee. In addition to this fee, there is an annual fee for accessing our programmes. The exams themselves have an examination fee. The fee list will be sent after we have received your Expression of Interest

14) **Do you have Regional representatives in Italy?** No. If you are interested in becoming a Cambridge School you will need to get in touch with either my colleagues in Customer Service at [info@cie.org.uk](mailto:info@cie.org.uk) or with me at [Varriale.a@cie.org.uk](mailto:Varriale.a@cie.org.uk)