

## Italian GCSE / RSA

### **What is the Department like?**

We are housed in the Gill Building with a specialist classroom, a computer room and a new state of the art Language Laboratory. The classroom has its own VCR / DVD player and access to multi media facilities including Italian television, radio and listening materials, and an interactive whiteboard. Students are allocated conversation classes with an Italian Language Assistant on an individual or small group basis.

Ms Joanna Martin who teaches Italian, in common with all the staff in the Language Department, has spent a considerable periods of time living and working abroad.

### **What is the course about?**

These are beginners' courses open to anyone in the College. We offer a course in each language that will prepare you either for a GCSE or an RSA (Royal Society of Arts) qualification in Basic Business Competence in Italian. These courses provide basic language proficiency in practical situations such as Travel, Shopping and Leisure Activities. Whereas at GCSE you will develop the four skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening, the RSA qualification only requires you to take an oral test. There is emphasis on the spoken language throughout the year.

Three hours per week are devoted to these courses and we hope that they provide the chance to take a lighter, more leisurely course alongside your A levels. There is even the possibility of continuing to AS Level in the second year if you have reached a sufficient level at GCSE.

GCSE students have taken part in trips to Venice and Florence, and have benefited from cultural and linguistic development in a relaxed and fun environment.