# LA SCU<br/> LA



















At La Scuola International School, students become the protagonists in their own learning. We recognize no limit to their ability to learn, find beauty in life, and discover extraordinary answers.





La Scuola is alive with provocative questions—posed by brave learners and encouraged by caring teachers as children take the initiative in their own processes of discovery.



We nurture students' ability to learn across languages, across cultures, and across subjects. We welcome the opportunity to rise above boundaries and the limits that otherwise confine learning and growing.



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# LA SCUOLA IS OPEN TO THE WORLD.





**OUR MISSION:** 

Inspire brave learners

to shape the future.

The educational program at La Scuola integrates elements from the world's most engaging and effective styles of teaching and learning. This includes the proven benefits of language immersion and the invaluable lateral thinking that springs from cross-disciplinary study.

Open listening between teachers and students further distinguishes La Scuola. Our awareness of and responsiveness to the other members of our community creates opportunity to build wisdom, understanding, and collaboration. La Scuola came to life in 2002 so that San Francisco families could keep Italian language and culture in their lives. Over time, we have advanced that celebration of language, culture, and connection beyond its original focus on Italian. Today, the La Scuola community is open to and connected with the world.







Our learning environment opens our eyes, extends our horizons, and nourishes our curiosity.



Our ateliers—creative hands-on learning spaces—elevate the study of art, music, food, the outdoors, technology, and more. The experiential education they make possible sparks students' imaginations and fosters free expression.

Children naturally ask questions and, at La Scuola, we take those questions seriously. We do this through the **Reggio Emilia** approach, a way of teaching that stimulates students' natural inclination to discover.

Seeing things through each other's eyes, students learn to greet diversity and complexity with resiliency and wonder.

# **REGGIO EMILIA**

The Reggio Emilia approach —developed in the Italian city of the same name—elevates children as co-constructors of their learning. This dynamic approach builds confidence and community while encouraging children to recognize themselves as thinkers, collaborators, life-long learners, and valuable contributors.

Reggio Emilia teaches that children aren't blank slates, but rather individuals who arrive rich with questions and ideas. At La Scuola, teachers help focus our students' natural interests with frameworks of support that foster curiosity, dialogue, and the joy of discovery.

THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE CURRICULUM

The International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum provides La Scuola with a framework—one applied in over 5,000 schools across more than 150 countries—that fosters an openness to and readiness for an increasingly connected world. This curriculum is enriched by the Reggio Emilia approach, which amplifies our love of inquiry, self-directed learning, and global awareness.

By organizing instruction into trans-disciplinary themes that build from grade to grade, International Baccalaureate students learn to apply nimble thinking to their self-directed, teacher-focused explorations. They gain the fundamental knowledge they need to advance their understanding and the skills they require to react and respond to a diverse world that's rich in opportunity.

Today, information has become a commodity—and that makes discernment and insight vastly more valuable. It's why the La Scuola community encourages students to recognize themselves as the source of provocative questions and extraordinary answers.

Our purposeful structure supports academic excellence while charting a path to the learning that's most appropriate—and interesting—to each class.



Students discover extraordinary answers because they're the ones asking the questions. Nothing holds them back.



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At La Scuola, we believe in children and we believe in community. Here, students nourish their bodies, fill their hearts, and welcome their peers at organic, healthful, sustainable meals that celebrate international flavors. We eat around the table, family-style, every day.

Our garden program gives students the opportunity to touch, feel, and care about the interdependence of living things. **Italian language immersion** helps us to embrace the value of new perspectives and our own emotions.

As we expand into our Mission campus, our joy in welcoming others reaches new heights. Designed to elevate the environment that enriches us, this campus allows us to extend ourselves out into the community.



# **ITALIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION**

Imagine this: a third-grader grows challenged during a group project and begins to feel upset. Instead of expressing himself in English, however, he calms his emotions and speaks in Italian—the challenge of translation serving as a powerful tool that allows him to regain his balance and his connection to himself and his work.

Language immersion gives students new modes of expression and a wider perspective so they can step above and see beyond. At La Scuola, our graduates are bilingual (at least) and that makes them better able to navigate challenges of focus, deliberation, and planning than students who learn in English alone.



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When you learn a new language, you learn an entire world."

—Leticia Rocha-Dias, Language Coordinator

# **BENVENUTI!**

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Come get to know us at an open house, through a school tour, or over a cappuccino. I look forward to welcoming you to our family."

Valentina Imbeni, Head of School

Learn More: admissions@lascuolasf.org • (415) 551-0000





International School • Preschool - 8th Grade

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