

Classics Curriculum Summary

Latin Forms 3 - 6

The study of Latin begins in Form 3, with the linguistic content being introduced at a suitable pace for each age and ability group. The subject matter deals with appropriate topics from life, history and legend. The aims of the course are:

- To acquaint all children with the Latin language so that they might achieve a fluent and intelligent understanding of the written word.
- To provide children with an awareness of language structures and a knowledge of vocabulary that will serve to increase their appreciation of both English and of other modern European languages.
- To give all children knowledge of the Classical background that provides the essential context for the study of the language and to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the stories contained within original sources.

In Forms 3 and 4 we use the Cambridge Latin Course Book I, which is divided into twelve stages, all of which are set in Pompeii in AD79. The course is essentially a reading one and each stage, therefore, contains a number of stories for translation/comprehension purposes in addition to grammar and vocabulary content. The course is designed to develop an understanding of the social and political history of the Romans, especially during the first century AD.

In Forms 5 and 6 we follow the Common Entrance language syllabus which gives the children a thorough grounding in Latin grammar within the context of stories adapted from original Latin sources. We also study the stories themselves to encourage an understanding of their cultural significance and to lay foundations for later studies of Latin literature.

Form 3

Key Grammar Content

Nouns 1st - 3rd Declension (masculine & feminine) nominative and accusative singular

Verbs 1st - 4th Conjugation present indicative active 3rd person singular
The verb 'sum' present indicative 3rd person singular

Vocabulary from CLC Book I Stages 1-3

Syntax Uses of the nominative & accusative
Subject-verb-object relationship
Complements
Direct statement

Background Studies

Houses and daily life in Pompeii

Form 4

Key Grammar Content

Nouns	1st - 3rd declension (masculine & feminine) nominative and accusative plural, dative case
Pronouns	ego, tu, nos, vos
Verbs	1st - 4th conjugation present, imperfect & perfect indicative active The verb 'sum' present and imperfect indicative
Adjectives	Comparatives and superlatives of regular adjectives
Vocabulary	from CLC Book I Stages 4 to 9
Syntax	Temporal & Causal clauses Uses of the dative

Background Studies

The Theatre
Slaves and freedmen
Religious Beliefs
Gladiators
The Baths

Form 5

Key Grammar Content

Adjectives	1st - 3rd Declension (as Nouns)
Nouns	1st - 3rd Declension (masculine & feminine) vocative, genitive & ablative cases 2 nd and 3 rd declension neuter nouns, all cases
Prepositions	All prepositions taking the accusative and ablative cases
Pronouns	ego, tu, nos, vos (all cases)
Verbs	Present infinitive active Principal parts Present indicative of the verbs possum, volo and nolo The imperative Future indicative of 1 st – 4 th conjugation regular verbs and 'sum'
Vocabulary	from CLC Book I Stages 10 to 12 and Common Entrance Word List.
Syntax	Use of the infinitive Direct command Prepositional phrases

Background Studies

Education
The Eruption of Vesuvius and Excavation of Pompeii
Greek Mythology

Form 6

Key Grammar Content

Adjectives	Comparative & superlative of bonus, malus, magnus, parvus and multus
Adverbs	All adverbs of manner, time and place
Nouns	4 th & 5 th Declension (masculine & feminine) all cases
Verbs	Pluperfect indicative of 1 st – 4 th conjugation regular verbs and ‘sum’ All tenses of possum Prohibitions (noli/nolite) The irregular verbs eo and fero The present, imperfect, future, perfect and imperfect passive voice of 1 st to 4 th conjugation verbs The imperfect tense of the subjunctive mood in purpose clauses and indirect commands Present participles Past participle passive
Pronouns	Demonstrative adjectives is, ea, id Relative Pronoun Reflexive Pronoun Emphatic pronoun
Vocabulary	from Common Entrance Examination Word List for Levels 1, 2 and 3
Syntax	Use of Participles Purpose (Final) Clauses Indirect Commands

Background Studies

Greek Mythology with particular emphasis on Ovid’s Metamorphoses and the Iliad and Odyssey and its influence on Virgil’s Aeneid.

Those who show a particular aptitude for learning Latin or who are preparing for individual school academic Scholarships may expect to encounter some grammatical concepts at an earlier stage and may also, then, cover the following:

Verbs	The perfect infinitive active, present and perfect infinitive passive Deponent verbs including present and past participles The pluperfect subjunctive active
Vocabulary	from Common Entrance Examination Word List levels 1 to 3 plus separate scholarship word lists
Syntax	Indirect Statement (including use of the accusative + infinitive construction) Temporal clauses including cum + subjunctive The ablative absolute Indirect questions Consecutive (result) clauses Verbs of fearing Conditional clauses

Contribution to Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education

Latin develops SMSC in a wide variety of ways, including:

- An appreciation and understanding of other cultures
- A thoughtful, tolerant approach to different beliefs and attitudes
- An appreciation of the richness of language, the importance of communication skills and the connections between language and culture

Greek Forms 5 - 6

The opportunity to study Greek is offered to those pupils who, after one year of Latin, have shown a particular aptitude or enthusiasm for the language. During the two-year course, we aim to introduce them to the structure of the Greek language and to aspects of Greek myth, literature and history. While the pupils acquire their knowledge of the latter in part through translations and books in English, they are also given the opportunity to read at least a little in the original. Original Greek can be read at an earlier stage in the course than Latin and can therefore be appreciated even by a relative beginner.

Form 5

In Form 5 the course is divided between studying the language and topics from Greek mythology and culture.

The language work begins with the learning of the Greek alphabet. Grammar points and vocabulary are then introduced in the context of simple sentences. Notes are made in the pupils' exercise books and this process continues throughout the two-year course. Much work is done on connecting Greek words with English derivations.

The pupils study the Gods of Olympus and heroes from Greek mythology. They share their knowledge with other members of the class and then choose a particular person to investigate in more detail. They also undertake work on the topic of the Ancient Olympic Games, discovering information about the events, athletes and the site of Olympia.

Form 6

In Form 6 the course is once again divided, this time between work on the language and the study of Greek literature.

More grammar points and vocabulary are introduced so that the pupils are in a position to read some passages of adapted original Greek, using the book "Reading Greek".

The pupils also study the two epic poems of Homer, 'The Iliad' and 'The Odyssey'. This is mainly done through translations and books in English, but some of the original Greek is read.

Contribution to Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education

Greek develops SMSC in a wide variety of ways, including:

- Developing an appreciation of other cultures
- Engaging the children in discussion about a range of beliefs and attitudes
- Giving children an appreciation of the richness of language and the importance of communication skills