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OUR HISTORY

The first years

In 1958 Wanda and Francesco Formiga founded the International School of Milan. On the first day of school, in the classrooms in Via Senato, just four students were present. Our subsequent success obliged us to change premises several times. In 1970 we adopted the British academic system of O-level and A-level GGCE examinations.

The 1980s and 1990s

In 1986, the Italian Parliament passed a law recognizing the IB as equivalent to “Maturità”. The ISM began to incorporate IB courses, even though the official mechanism for recognition of IB schools was applied only in 1992. Starting from that date, the ISM adopted the IB Diploma in place of A-Levels.

At the same time, growing requests from families induced the ISM to open a new branch in Monza (1984), to sponsor the International School of Rome (1988) and to open the International School of Modena (1998), initially as a joint venture with Tetra Pak.

The new millennium

The IB programmes became the only ones offered by the ISM. All traces of the British programme were abandoned definitively.

2008 saw the birth of the International School of Europe, the largest Italian network of international schools with a common vision and mission, based on the IB. The first ISE schools were those of Milan, Monza and Modena. They were joined in 2010 by the International School of Siena, created as a joint venture with Novartis Vaccines, Monte dei Paschi and the Province di Siena.

The schools of di Bergamo, Bologna, Brescia and Como, managed by partners, also belong to the ISE group.

In 2012 a project began in all the schools which introduced the use of personal tablets as a teaching tool, alongside books and traditional study methods. Technology, an essential element for an academic path aimed at the future, has become an integral part of the learning programme.

September 2013 saw the inauguration of the new Campus of Milan, specially designed to bring together under a single roof the ISM’s Early Years, Primary, Middle and High Schools, the Liceo Internazionale Oxford and the Oxford Group.