

"Mena could be a role model for many students as she is very respectful to both her classmates and her teachers."

## Lär känna Mena

Mena är född 2008 och kommer från Italien. Hon kommer i augusti 2025 och stannar under ett läsår. Intressen är bl. a musik (sång, spelar fiol), dans och promenader. Hennes favoritämnen i skolan är fysik, matematik, engelska och latin.

Dear Host Family,

My name is Mena, and I am from Italy. I live with my mum, stepdad, and half sister. My father lives in another city, but I see him once or twice a week. We all have a very good relationship, especially my sister and me. She is only 2 years old, but we have a lot of fun when I watch and play with her. Sometimes, I babysit her when my mum and stepdad go out, and I don't mind at all. I also have a wonderful relationship with my grandparents on both sides. They are very important to me because they give me good advice, and I can tell them anything. My mum's sister, my aunt, has a 4-year-old son, and I am very close to them too. I spent a long time as an only child and grandchild, but I am very happy to have little children in my family now. My mum, grandma, and aunt are also very happy about it since I am very good with children and can babysit them if needed. But I also enjoy being at my father's because there are no children around, and it can be very refreshing to recharge my energy. I have quite a few friends, but only a few close ones. They are both Italian and German, and I don't care about that. It's pretty funny where I live because many people speak German, but nearly as many speak Italian. This is because I live in northern Italy, which used to be Austrian territory but is now Italian. Some people still have prejudices against those who speak the other language, but everyone knows both because we learn them at school. In the city, most people speak Italian. I know both languages very well, so it's no problem for me, and I don't put people in boxes just because they speak German or Italian. My friends and I have fun either way, and we communicate in all sorts of languages because everyone knows both. Sometimes we mix them up and it's very funny. I attend a scientific gymnasium with Latin. There was also the possibility of studying without Latin, but I am glad I chose it because it's really interesting. I like the teachers because most of them explain the subjects very well. Many of my friends go to my school, and some are even in the same class as me. We bike to school together every day, rain or shine. It can be really fun sometimes. Generally speaking, my class is great. I love my classmates, and we have a lot of laughs and know how to work together. Everyone is respectful, and we really stick together. But I also have other friends from different schools, both Italian and German. My hobbies include playing the violin, singing, reading, and writing. I have been playing the violin for 8 years now and have been singing for as long as I can remember. My mum is very musical too; I inherited that from her. I participated in some musicals and plays too. I have always been in a choir, and I have been in a band for 3 years now. We play in restaurants and at events, and I enjoy it very much. Generally, I just love music, any kind of it. I combine it also with reading and writing. When I read or write, I always listen to music. I read a lot and enjoy nearly every genre. I like interesting biographies just as much as scientific and fantasy books. My love for writing started as soon as I learned how to write. I wrote little stories as gifts for friends and family or for myself. I even started writing a book some years ago, but I can't find the document anymore. I remember the story though. Now I have started writing poems, still both as gifts and for myself. I also like to draw, but I'm not very good at it.

Dear Host Family, I hope you like what I have shared about myself, and I am looking forward to meeting you. I wish you a great day and THANK YOU!

