

KS3 Chinese

Year 8 (CME 1)

In Year 8 we provide an introduction to the Chinese language and culture. All four skills are taught simultaneously to encourage students to become familiar with the reading and writing of characters from the outset. Pinyin (romanisation) will be used to support learning.

The following topic areas are covered:

- Personal information (name, greetings and social pleasantries);
- Number work (age, dates, birthdays, measure words);
- Countries, languages and nationalities (including place of residence);
- Dictionaries skills (paper and online versions);
- Family (measure words, alternative question formats);
- Education and employment;
- Chinese festivals (Spring Festival);
- Past, present and future tenses.

By the end of Year 8 an average student is expected to be able to read 60 characters and write between 30 and 50 individual characters (level 4). An exceptional student will be able to read up to 150 characters and write up to 100 characters (level 5+).

Year 9 (CME 1 & 2)

In Year 9 students will build on their Year 8 work, continuing to use characters wherever possible and becoming less reliant on the use of pinyin. Students will be taught more complex grammar and be expected to use it wherever possible.

The following topic areas are covered:

- Continents and the ability to speak languages;
- Employment and places of employment;
- Travel and transport (including time; the comparative and the superlative);
- Hobbies, sports, music and the arts;
- Chinese festivals (Dragon Boat festival).

By the end of Year 9 an average student is expected to be able to read 100 characters and write between 50 and 100 individual characters (level 5). An exceptional student will be able to read up to 250 characters and write up to 150 individual characters (level 6+).

Additional notes: in the Summer term of Year 9 the class splits into two groups, yet remaining with the same teacher:

Group A will consist of the pre-GCSE group who will make a head-start on the grammar and topics required for AQA GCSE Chinese.

Group B will consist of those who have elected not to continue Chinese in KS4. This group will use their existing knowledge of Chinese to complete the OCR ASSET qualification Breakthrough Chinese, levels 1-3. All pupils in this group complete level 1, most complete level 2, some complete level 3.

