

Mandarin GCSE

Examining Board: AQA

Mandarin is the most widely-spoken language in the world, and being able to speak Mandarin opens up a wealth of opportunities later in life. The GCSE Mandarin course will teach students how to speak and understand Mandarin, as well as giving them a greater insight into life in China, the world's second largest economy. GCSE Mandarin is an exciting course that gives K.E.S. students a distinct advantage over students from other schools across the country.

GCSE Mandarin builds upon the language knowledge that students have acquired in Year 8 and is a three-year course which gradually enhances students' writing, speaking, reading and listening skills.

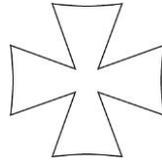
Being able to write in Mandarin characters is an impressive and advanced skill that is one of the course's main objectives. Students will be guided through this process, developing their confidence in writing Mandarin throughout the duration of the GCSE course. They will also develop their Mandarin speaking skills, and will be equipped with the knowledge to communicate in a variety of contexts with confidence.

Trip to China

Students taking GCSE Mandarin will have the opportunity to take part on a school trip to China or Taiwan. This exciting trip will involve visiting world-famous sites in the cities such as Beijing or Shanghai, where they may visit the Great Wall of China, the Summer Palace and many others that will allow them to use their Mandarin language in Chinese communities itself and to be immersed in authentic Chinese culture.

GCSE Overview:

The course covers a variety of topics, including leisure and lifestyle, holidays, food, work and careers, and the media. Students are encouraged to use as many different study resources as possible when studying Mandarin, and lessons will use a variety of interactive online Chinese resources, as well as authentic materials and other print resources. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in various cultural lessons and visit Chinatown in the UK.



The course will have examinations in the four skills, as shown below:

Listening and understanding in Mandarin: **25% of GCSE**

Multiple choice/short answers in English

Speaking in Mandarin: **25% of GCSE**

Role play/ picture-based task/ conversation

Reading and understanding in Mandarin: **25% of GCSE**

Multiple choice/ short answers

Translation from Mandarin to English

Writing in Mandarin: **25% of GCSE**

Two short writing tasks

Translation from English to Mandarin