

Subject: Mandarin

Curriculum Intent

The Mandarin Department's curriculum is centred on developing confident, proficient, culturally aware, and lifelong language learners.

Our recall-based and interconnected curriculum realises our vision of fostering international awareness in all students through the understanding of a foreign language and its cultures, regardless of prior attainment or background. The curriculum is planned over seven years to deliver grammar, vocabulary, and skills that cumulatively develop learners' proficiency over time while avoiding cognitive overload.

The Mandarin Department has an "essential wider curriculum" that provides a range of trips to cultural institutions in London, such as the BFI, the British Museum, and Chinatown, as well as an annual trip to China, which further strengthens the case for language learning beyond GCSE. In addition, lessons incorporate opportunities for students to develop cultural capital through authentic examples and resources from the Sinophone world, as well as self-regulation skills, such as verbal fluency and self-correction.

We are very proud of the learners who leave Riverside having attained Mandarin skills that they will carry into their future careers. Our curriculum therefore gives them an advantage over their monolingual peers.

Year 7 Topics

- Autumn Term 2 – Hello and family
- Spring Term 1 – Me and my pets
- Spring Term 2 – Hobbies
- Summer Term 1 – Sports
- Summer Term 2 – School

Year 8 Topics

- Autumn Term 1 – Holidays
- Autumn Term 2 – my house and town
- Spring Term 1 – food
- Spring Term 2 – describing myself
- Summer Term 1 – shopping and clothes
- Summer Term 2 – Chinese festivals

Year 9 Topics

- Autumn Term 1 – My family
- Autumn Term 2 –my school
- Spring Term 1 – Free time
- Spring Term 2 – Holidays
- Summer Term 1– shopping
- Summer Term 2 –Town

Year 10 Topics

- Autumn Term 1 – Environment and global issues
- Autumn Term 2 –Technology and free time
- Spring Term 1 – Jobs and future plans
- Spring Term 2 – Eating out
- Summer Term 1– TV and cinema
- Summer Term 2 – Speaking

Year 11 Topics

- Autumn Term 1 – social and global issues, town and travel.
- Autumn Term 2 –school, education post-16 and jobs and future plans
- Spring Term 1 – family and relationships, technology, free time and festivals.
- Spring Term 2 – Exam skills and revision
- Summer Term 1– Exam skills and revision
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GCSE Specification Details and Assessment: AQA Mandarin 9-1