



Subject on a page:

MFL

At Heathfield Primary School, we believe that a high-quality languages education fosters pupils' curiosity and deepens their understanding of the world. Our pupils learn Mandarin, enhancing their linguistic skills and cultural awareness. This prepares them for further education and diverse career opportunities, equipping them with valuable communication skills and a global perspective.



Intent—We aim to...

Ensure pupils speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity.

Ensure pupils practice and improve the accuracy of pronunciation and intonation.

Ensure pupils can write in Mandarin, for different purposes and audiences.

Develop pupils' knowledge of the Chinese language and culture.

Provide opportunities for pupils to understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of sources.



Implementation—How do we achieve our aims?

培养未来的成功公民

At Heathfield, our intention is that children gain a comprehensive understanding of Mandarin through speaking, listening, reading, and writing. We immerse students in the language and culture, exploring various traditions and contemporary contexts. Our objective is to develop a curiosity for Mandarin, as well as an appreciation for the richness and diversity of Chinese culture. We aim to provide an engaging and challenging Mandarin curriculum, ensuring lessons are inclusive and developmental appropriate for different age groups and specific needs of the children, while still allowing opportunities for students to stretch and challenge themselves.

**High Quality Lessons**

Our Mandarin curriculum is explicit about what pupils learn. Lessons are designed to help pupils think linguistically, both consciously and unconsciously. Learning is defined as a change in long-term memory, and key elements of the Mandarin curriculum are revisited regularly to reinforce this. Additionally, Mandarin teaching integrates speaking, listening, reading, and writing, as we believe that linguistic understanding is enhanced when all these elements are taught in unison. We have a Mandarin specialist who delivers these high-quality lessons.

**Expressive Progression**

Expressive progression in Mandarin is carefully structured to ensure pupils develop their language skills effectively. We focus on building a strong foundation in speaking, listening, reading, and writing, with each skill reinforcing the others. Pupils are encouraged to use Mandarin in various contexts, enhancing their ability to express themselves fluently and accurately. Our Mandarin specialist guides pupils through this progression, providing tailored support and fostering a deep understanding of the language and culture.

**Vocabulary Progression**

Vocabulary is chosen to ensure it is highly relevant and useful for pupils. We carefully select the vocabulary to be taught, planning them to be used in various contexts to reinforce understanding and aid long-term retention. This deliberate approach increases the likelihood of vocabulary becoming part of pupils' long-term memory and being applied across different topics within their Mandarin lessons.

**Language Comprehensio**

In Key Stage 2, pupils must interpret what they hear and read, which is a challenging aspect of learning Mandarin and requires patience. Consistent practice helps pupils become more proficient, allowing them to progress to more advanced listening, reading, and writing tasks. Through songs and rhymes, pupils will explore the patterns and sounds of the language, connecting the spelling, sound, and meaning of words.



## Implementation (continued)

### Language Development

In our Mandarin lessons, significant time is dedicated to pupils actively practising speaking the language. It is crucial that they have the chance to listen and then repeat, as this builds their confidence. Pupils will develop accurate pronunciation and intonation, ensuring they are understood when reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases. As their confidence grows, pupils will be able to present ideas and information orally to an audience.

### Inclusion

At our school, we believe that language acquisition is universal and that everyone can be involved in learning Mandarin. We strive to create an inclusive environment where all pupils feel valued and supported. Our Mandarin curriculum is designed to be accessible to all, with lessons structured to include manageable chunks, repetition, and a pace that suits different learning needs. We encourage everyone to adopt a 'can do' attitude, ensuring that every pupil feels confident and motivated to participate and succeed. We celebrate the diverse backgrounds and abilities of our pupils, recognising that each one brings unique strengths to the learning process.

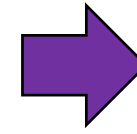
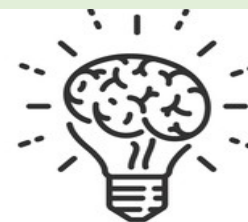
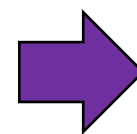
### Active Participation

Pupils must feel safe to make mistakes when learning Mandarin, as this is an inevitable part of the process. Creating a supportive environment where pupils are encouraged to 'have a go' is essential. Encouraging pupils to identify their own errors is the most effective approach, although it requires practice. Additionally, the use of echo recall is employed to ensure clarity and accuracy in pronunciation.

### Professional Development

At our school, we prioritise continuous professional development (CPD) for our staff to ensure high-quality Mandarin instruction. Our specialist Mandarin teacher works closely with class teachers, providing them with strong professional learning and development (PLD). This collaboration not only enhances the teachers' language skills and teaching strategies but also has a significant impact on pupils' learning and outcomes. By working alongside the specialist, class teachers gain valuable insights and techniques, leading to more effective and engaging Mandarin lessons.

*Our pupils 'learn more, remember more and do more'*



*Impact: How will we know we achieved our aims?*

Pupils have a broad vocabulary built up over time.

Pupils can respond to simple questions in Mandarin, showing their confidence and competence in the language.

Pupils are motivated in their Mandarin lessons and enjoy speaking a new language.

Pupils have a cultural understanding of life in China and how this compares to their life.

Pupils are able to write simple words and phrases in Mandarin.