



IB Ab Initio Chinese Lower 6th

Curriculum Intent

The Chinese department seeks to develop ambitious and resilient linguists who recognise their common humanity and strive to gain inter-cultural understanding and respect.

In this beginner's course, we aim to provide an understanding of Chinese in a range of themes from social changes, and global issues which enable students to communicate effectively in authentic situations whilst appreciating its value in their future career paths. We intend to develop our students to be inquisitive and curious about culture, knowledgeable and understanding, open-minded and courageous as they personally develop through their learning of Chinese.

Studying is like sailing against the current: a boat must forge ahead or it will be swept downstream – Chinese proverb

Students will learn

Extensive grammatical knowledge including how to use language in a variety of purposes. The course has 5 prescribed themes. It will cover 3 themes in lower sixth.

- Identities:
 - 1.1 Personal attribute
 - 1.2 Personal relationships
 - 1.3 Eating and drinking
 - 1.4 Physical well-being
- Experiences:
 - 2.1 Daily routine
 - 2.2 Leisure
 - 2.3 Holidays
 - 2.4 Festivals and celebrations
- Human Ingenuity:
 - 3.1 Transport
 - 3.2 Entertainment
 - 3.3 Media
 - 3.4 Technology

Knowledge, understanding & Skills

- To develop the language they use and understand in order to communicate.
- To understand a wide variety of written and spoken authentic personal, professional and mass media texts.
- To speak and write with a purpose, in order to meet a wide range of communicative needs: describing, narrating, comparing, explaining, persuading, justifying, evaluating.
- To be able to initiate, maintain and close oral exchanges, displaying ability to adapt styles.
- To use a variety of strategies to maintain the flow of conversations and discussions on a variety of topics.
- To continue to develop knowledge of vocabulary and grammar, as well as conceptual understanding of how language works.
- To develop understanding of the relationship between the language and culture
- To develop deeper thinking through TOK Questions.

What does excellence look like?

- A developing knowledge of vocabulary.
- Confident use of Target Language
- Understanding of issues/themes/cultural or social contexts demonstrated through convincing interpretations and comparisons
- Consistent variation of grammatical structures, including in use of complex language, producing consistently articulate writing
- Consistently varied use of vocabulary, allowing ideas to be conveyed in a variety of different ways
- Appropriate use of text formats and style.
- Any errors do not hinder clarity of communication

How can you enhance your learning at home?

There are numerous websites such as those listed below which will allow students to practise Chinese during their independent study time:

- Memrise
- Quizlet
- GoChinese.net
- Dynamic-learning.co.uk
- Flipped learning exercises
- Essay bank
- William Tweed Resources library
- Padlet
- Easy Steps to Chinese Books 3, 4, 5, 6

How will we assess impact?

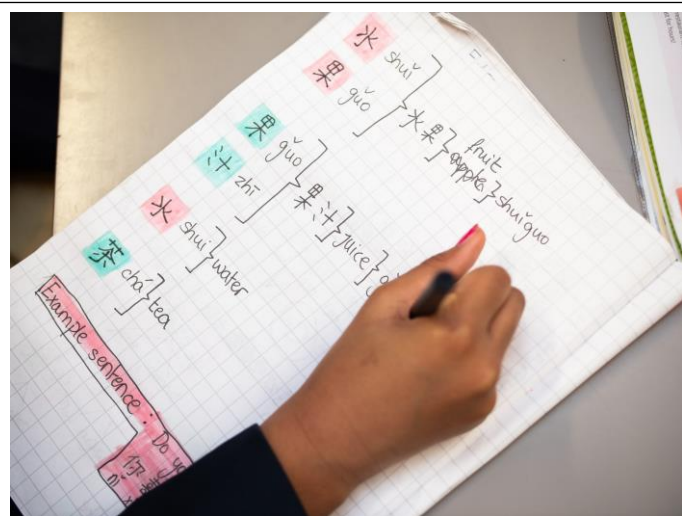
Our teaching encourages regular learning of key vocabulary and refinement of grammatical structures that are tested regularly. Vocabulary recall is developed via weekly 10-point tests. Teachers assess pupils less formally in class via the four skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. Pupils work collaboratively in pairs and groups to constantly improve their speaking skills, providing peer feedback.

Each half-term pupils take an assessment in test conditions during lesson time. In June of Lower Sixth pupils take a full-length IB-style examination, which helps to predict their final grade as accurately as possible and to offer the students an opportunity to experience the speed and attention to detail required in the examination.

International Opportunities

Visits Programmes

- AES has a partner schools in Hangzhou, Zhenjiang and Nanjing
- University visits or cultural day visits may also be arranged.



Within the curriculum

- 1-1 sessions with a volunteer Native Speaker to develop speaking skills and wider cultural understanding.
- The IB curriculum is designed to deepen understanding and appreciation of Chinese culture and customs.
- Students are encouraged to research each theme beyond lessons and set work to ensure that they can draw on a wide knowledge of the culture and society.

Wider Reading

Kuaile Hanyu

Book1: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=huaile+hanby+book1

Kuaile Hanyu

Book2: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=huaile+hanby+book2

12 basic Chinese Grammar you need to know for

HKS1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uSIZVM2VaFE>

HSK1 Vocabulary

List: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uSIZVM2VaFE>
E16 Delightful Resources for Easy Chinese Reading Practice: <https://www.fluentu.com/blog/chinese/2015/11/23/easy-chinese-reading/>



机不可失，时不再来

Don't miss opportunities: time doesn't come round again