SUBJECT: Chinese IB Ab Initio	
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: Mr F Wang	EXAM BOARD AND SYLLABUS NUMBER: Language Initio

SYNOPSIS OF CONTENT

The acquisition of language skills to be used in four active and interrelated ways:

Through listening, speaking, reading and writing in a wide ranges of contexts, including the domains of identities, experiences, human ingenuity, social organisation and sharing the planet.

The four skills involve exchanging ideas and effective communication and are studied through a range of texts and materials which enable an awareness of the culture where the language is spoken.

An important aspect of the course is also to develop the students' cultural knowledge of China. The level of language is quite demanding and students will be expected to devote considerable time to learning characters.

SKILLS THAT WILL BE DEVELOPED

Chinese has emerged from a turbulent history to become economic powerhouse in the twenty fist century and leading player on the world stage. The Chinese language has the different roots as English and other European languages and different rhythm, but has simpler grammatical structures, whilst a charming vocabulary captivates with vivid imagery. This fascinating subject has appeal to a wide variety of students attracting those with musical, scientific and artistic sensibilities and/or those with aspirations in international industry, commerce or diplomacy

SOME USEFUL WEBSITES/APPS
Online Dictionary:
MDBG
Perapera
http://www.nciku.com
http://www.memrise.com
http://quizlet.com/class/169477/
http://www.fluentu.com/
http://collections.uiowa.edu/chinese/topic_beginning.html
Apps:
TCB:The Chairman's Bao/ Pleco/Pinyin Trainer
Chinese Strokes Order

ASSESSMENT

Oral Assessment (25%):
Individual oral exam. A conversation with teacher, base on the visual stimulus and at least one additional course themes. (10-15 minutes)

Paper 1:
Productive skill, Writing (1 hour)(25%)
two written tasks of 70-150 characters each from a choice of three tasks.

Paper 2 Written Production (50%)
Listening comprehension (45 minutes) (25%)
Reading comprehension (1 hour) (25%)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students are strongly advised to subscribe to a foreign language magazine and keep up to date with topical issues around the world, especially in target language country.

Dictionary for study at home is advised.
Attending lessons with the Language Assistant is compulsory.

SPECIFIC MATRICULATION REQUIREMENTS

There are no matriculation requirements in addition to the general Sixth Form entry requirements.
The course is aimed at students with no previous experience of learning Chinese.