

## Mandarin Chinese at QMGS

QMGS has been offering Mandarin Chinese to its pupils since September 2007. We started small, and with the immense support from the Senior Leadership Team and the whole school community we gradually built up our Mandarin teaching capacity over the years. The Chinese department currently has two full-time teachers and one part-time teacher. We became a Confucius Classroom affiliated to IOE Confucius Institute in 2014 and are currently hosting two Hanban teachers.

Mandarin is now taught at KS3, KS4 and KS5, covering qualifications such as GCSE, GCE and HSK. Mandarin is compulsory in Year 7 and optional from Year 8 onwards. This academic year we have over 250 pupils attending timetabled Mandarin lessons ranging from beginners to A level. As a Confucius Classroom we also carry our outreach work in local primary schools and partner schools within the Mercian Trust.

## Mandarin Excellence Programme (MEP) at QMGS

In September 2016, QMGS became one of the first 14 secondary schools in the UK participating in the Mandarin Excellence Programme, a new intensive language programme funded by the Department for Education. Students on the programme study eight hours of Mandarin Chinese every week – including four hours of classroom taught lessons.



**Mandarin  
Excellence  
Programme**



### Delivering the four taught classroom hours

Our Year 7 MEP students have two timetabled Chinese lessons and two afterschool sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays to make up the four hours face to face contact teaching hours. The Year 8 and the Year 9 MEP pupils this year have three timetabled lessons and one after school session on Mondays each week. All MEP taught lessons including the afterschool sessions are delivered by experienced Mandarin teachers and supported by our Hanban teachers.

### Delivering the four non-taught hours

Our MEP Students study four additional hours each week outside of taught hours. Each week we give MEP pupils booklets or project based assignments via online platforms such as Edmodo which normally take around two hours to complete.

To make up the four non-taught hours for the Year 7 MEP pupils, we run one Intensive Chinese Learning Weekend each term. At the end of Autumn term we have the Celebrating Christmas in Chinese Style weekend, in Spring Term we have the Chinese New Year Celebration Weekend, and in Summer Term we have a revision weekend before the Hurdle test. In addition to these weekend courses, Year 7 MEP pupils also participate in the Chinese Language and Culture Day at the end of Summer Term. Year 8 MEP pupils will travel to China for a two-week Chinese Summer Camp and the Year 9 MEP pupils will attend a residential course based at a University in the UK in June.

## QMGs Confucius Classroom



QMGs became a Confucius Classroom with IOE Confucius Institute in September 2014. Now it has become a regional hub for teaching Chinese and promoting Chinese culture. With great support from IOE Confucius Institute, Hanban and Hanban teachers, QMGs is able to offer a wide range of activities both at QMGs and at local schools.

To enrich pupils experience with Chinese we encourage pupils to take part in the HSBC/British Council Speaking Competition every year.



As one of three Confucius Classrooms in the West Midlands, we offer support to local schools to deliver Chinese courses, help them to find and establish links with Chinese schools, run courses for primary school teachers to help them to start Chinese at their school, carry out networking events and work with IOE and other universities to train Mandarin teachers.

Mandarin is thriving at QMGs. Through hard work and resilience our pupils will continue to face the challenges and to enjoy the sense of achievement which mastering a difficult language can bring.