

MASTERING MANDARIN

At One World International School (OWIS), the Mandarin programme is a coherent, clearly articulated curriculum for all students from EC1 to Grade 8.

The curriculum has been developed and designed to incorporate the attainment targets in essential knowledge, key skills, breadth of learning and curriculum progression in Mandarin learning and follow three strands:



Verbal Communication

- Students engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
- Students present information, concepts, and ideas on a variety of topics.
- Students present persuasive arguments with supporting materials.
- Students critically analyse and interpret the seen and spoken word for implied and hidden meanings.



Literacy

- Students understand and interpret written language on a variety of topics and write short essays with accuracy.
- Students reinforce and further their knowledge of Mandarin by making cross-curricular connections.
- Students widen and deepen their language awareness by exposure to a variety of literature and media.
- Students apply their knowledge of word origins to determine the meaning of new words encountered in reading materials and use those words accurately.
- Students read and respond to historically or culturally significant works of literature that reflect and enhance their critical thinking and knowledge of literature.



Culture

- Students demonstrate knowledge and understanding of significant components of Chinese culture and cultural aspects of the Chinese language.
- Students demonstrate understanding of Chinese culture by making comparisons with their own personal experiences.



Youth Chinese Test

Our curriculum ensures that students develop, oral, reading and writing skills essential to achieve performance standards consistent with the Youth Chinese Test (YCT). Hanban launched the YCT test in an effort to encourage foreign young students to learn Mandarin and improve their language proficiency.

The YCT is an international standardized test of Chinese language proficiency. It assesses young foreign students' abilities to use Chinese in their daily and academic lives. The writing test is divided into four levels:

Writing Test
YCT (Level IV)
YCT (Level III)
YCT (Level II)
YCT (Level I)

- Students who pass the YCT (Level I) can understand and use some of the most common Chinese phrases and sentences and possess the ability to further their Chinese language studies.

- Students who pass the YCT (Level II) can understand and use some simple Chinese phrases and sentences and cope with basic level communications.

- Students who pass the YCT (Level III), having reached an excellent level in basic Chinese, can communicate on familiar daily topics in a simple manner.

- Students who pass the YCT (Level IV) can communicate in Chinese at a basic level in their daily, academic and professional lives. When travelling in China, they can manage most forms of communication in Chinese.

At OWIS, we have a very good success record with YCT:

YCT Level	% of students passing this level
1	79
2	72
3	97
4	88