

Excellence Award winners 2014

Kou You

Kou You is a talented, dedicated and passionate Mandarin teacher at Rosendale Primary in West Dulwich, south London. Since joining the school she has worked tirelessly to provide exciting learning opportunities for the children and to raise understanding of Chinese language and culture across the school community. Kou You has nurtured phenomenally high standards in Mandarin speaking skills and some nine-year-olds are almost at GCSE level. Visitors to the school always want to see Mandarin learning in action and Kou You is always delighted to welcome them into her lessons – she recently welcomed HRH Princess Anne. Kou You always has a smile on her face and visitors are always very impressed with what they see. She is a truly brilliant individual and the children are very lucky to have her at Rosendale.

Xing Li

Xing has been teaching Mandarin at Brockenhurst College for nine years and her excellent work has helped her students to achieve As and A*s in their exams. She helped to secure IOE Confucius Classroom (CC) status for Brockenhurst College and provides expert support for the running of the CC. She is dedicated to her teaching as well as her other roles in Sino-UK school relationships and has helped build up Brockenhurst's partnership connections with Chinese sister schools.

Rob Neal

Rob is Head of Mandarin at Silverdale School in Sheffield, where he has taught for seven years offering Mandarin Chinese, French, German and Latin. He is passionate about his teaching and is an inspiring teacher widely loved and respected by his students. He regularly arranges for his students to take part in the annual Summer Camps in China, and accompanies the trip with great energy and enthusiasm, even taking up a voluntary role as a representative for other teachers from the UK. As well as being an excellent teacher and manager, Rob is also a keen academic, conducting research towards his PhD, which will contribute formally to the UK's developing Chinese foreign language pedagogy.

Ennelyn Schmidt-Roberts

Ennelyn is Assistant Principal and International Coordinator at Lambeth Academy. Ennelyn started a Chinese club in 2006 before introducing Mandarin into the school's curriculum in 2007. She has been instrumental in making Chinese flourish in the school and building a successful partnership with a school in China. Under her leadership, students have won various competitions including the HSBC/British Council Mandarin speaking competition and the UK China 100 Word competition. She is warm-hearted, dedicated and well respected by students and teachers alike.

Alice Webb

As Head of Mandarin at Benenden School in Kent, Alice provides vision, management and leadership: Mandarin continues to grow in curriculum breadth, intake numbers and strengthening relationships with other departments and schools. In the current academic year alone, Alice has organised three assemblies, a trip to China, a sixth form seminar, a Chinese short film competition, a lantern-making competition and other various festival celebrations. Alice engages students exceptionally well through her pedagogical skills and careful preparation, and importantly through her personal enthusiasm for the subject. Yet it is the countless hours she devotes to individual student contact, her personal warmth, intellectual vigour and pleasure in teaching that are most striking.

Yan Xianhui

Xianhui has worked as a Hanban teacher at the Anglo European School in Ingatestone, Essex for the last two years. She is extremely talented and can turn her hand to everything, from teaching infant school children to coaching A-level students, from Taichi Fan to playing the Guzheng. Xianhui is a real professional; she prepares all her classes with exceptional care and creates first-class resources, but what really stands out is her boundless enthusiasm in the classroom, which she passes on to all the children she teaches. She is an outstanding teacher who has worked tirelessly for the benefit of the school and she is a credit to the Hanban teacher programme.