

Mandarin Excellence Programme Year 8 Intensive Learning Information for 2019 Trip

What will the courses involve?

The focus of the trip is the develop students language ability and confidence in using their language skills. The course will consist of intensive linguistic and cultural programmes, including an average of four hours of intensive language study per day. Over the course of the two weeks, this will total at least 40 hours of intensive study.

During the intensive learning trip, 'Shopping' and 'Travel in China' will form the basis of in-depth and interactive teaching. Teaching materials will not be taken directly from Jinbu 2, and it is therefore advised that students have been introduced to Chapters 4 and 5 of Jinbu 2 before the trip takes place. This will ensure they are familiar with the content covered.

Teaching will be delivered by teachers from the host institution. They will receive teacher training from IOE Confucius Institute staff on delivering classes to MEP students prior to the trip.

Outside of the classroom, students will take part in a range of cultural activities and events, allowing them to use the language they have covered in morning classes, as well as see the local sights.

Dates for 2019

The dates for the 2019 trip have not yet been confirmed.

It is expected that the trip will take place at a similar time to this year's trip (30th June – 14th July 2018). Dates may be 2-3 days later in 2019 due to host institutions' term dates. The two week trip will take place during school term time.

Costs

Schools will need to pay for international flights, visa costs and insurance for teachers and students.

All schools will receive an MEP intensive learning subsidy of £350 for each Year 8 student attending the intensive learning in China. This will be automatically deducted from the cost of student flight tickets that are billed to the school.

In 2018 schools were charged £407.97 per student. Based on the costs in 2018 below is an *approximate cost* for students and accompanying teachers:

	Student	Teacher
Flight	£400	£750
Visa	£151	£151
Total*	£551	£901

*Schools may need to factor in insurance costs, as well as addition travel costs e.g. coach hire to and from airport

The following costs will be covered by Hanban: -

- Accommodation on or near the host institution campus
- Three meals per day, in addition to refreshments
- Costs associated with any cultural activities and visits (museum, zoo entry costs etc.)
- All travel in China, including airport transfers.

How to pay for flights?

Flights will be booked by the MEP team. No administration fee will be charged. Schools will be invoiced for the final cost of flights in May 2019. The invoice should be paid in full within six weeks of receiving the invoice.

The MEP team will endeavour to book flights departing and returning to an airport that is convenient for the school. Flight costs may be factor in deciding which airport is most suitable.

How many staff from my school can attend?

Your students will need to be accompanied by a sufficient number of adults during their stay in China. A 10:1 student to teacher ratio is being applied by Hanban, with a minimum of 2 staff members attending from your school. This means that if a school has 22 students, the costs for 2 accompanying staff members (excluding flight costs) would be covered. Staff places will be based on the number of students attending.

Schools may request that additional staff members accompany the trip at an additional cost to the school. An additional teacher space will incur an additional cost of approximately £700 - £1000, plus flight costs.

Where will schools be hosted?

In 2018 schools will be hosted at university institutions in Beijing, Chengdu and Shanghai. Host institutions for 2019 have not yet been confirmed and whilst it is anticipated that schools will be hosted in the same cities in 2019, this could change.

Accommodation

Accommodation for students and accompanying teachers will be provided either on the host institution camps, or in a hotel near the campus. Accompanying teachers will be placed in the same building as their students.

Students will be required to share rooms with classmates of the same gender. Normally this would be in numbers of two or four. Teachers will be accommodated in single occupancy rooms.