**Mandarin Excellence Programme**

**Expression of Interest template for schools**

This template is designed to assess your school’s readiness and willingness to participate in the DfE’s Mandarin Excellence Programme (MEP). This programme is being run by UCL Institute of Education’s Confucius Institute.

We are now recruiting schools that will start the programme in September 2019.

This template consists of three parts:

1. Background to the programme
2. Criteria for schools to take part in the programme
3. Template for your school to complete

Please return completed Expression of Interest forms to the MEP project team at [mandarinexcellence@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:mandarinexcellence@ucl.ac.uk)

**Background**

* On 22 September 2015 the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced funding of £10 million for at least 5,000 additional pupils to be taught Mandarin in schools in England by 2020.
* The purpose of the programme is to deliver a minimum of 5,000 speakers of Mandarin on their way to a high level of fluency by 2020. This target does not include native Mandarin speakers. It is expected that there will be at least 5,000 new pupils studying Mandarin who are on track to achieve a high level of fluency within 6 years of starting the programme.
* A key requirement of the programme is to implement a rigorous programme of study to the most able pupils. Most of the funding for the programme will go directly to schools; in particular a participating school will receive a minimum of £20,000 in each year it is able to recruit and retain pupils in the programme.
* The programme began in September 2016, with 14 ‘hub’ schools with a strong history of delivering Mandarin enrolling. These original hub schools provide support to schools new to joining the MEP. As of September 2018, there are 62 schools taking part in the programme, with around 3000 pupils from Year 7, 8 and 9 participating across these schools.
* The programme is open only to state-funded schools and will:  
  + be high profile/prestigious
  + start in year 7 in September 2016, include only secondary schools, be demanding and intensive and focus on a relatively small number of schools;
  + be rigorous and involve the study of Mandarin by highly able and motivated pupils for eight hours a week, made up of a combination of teacher-taught classroom lessons (a minimum of four hours a week), after school teaching and self-study;
  + supply a sufficient number of teachers that are recruited and trained by the supplier, in line with guidance published by the Department, but employed by schools;
  + provide [ongoing support to schools participating in the programme](https://ciforschools.wordpress.com/mandarin-excellence-programme/support/). This support network includes (but is not limited to) being partnered with a hub school experienced in delivering Mandarin, termly meetings for Headteachers and teachers, targeted training and CPD sessions, one-to-one support meetings and school visits.
  + embed effective, sustainable teaching practices that will continue to increase the number of pupils studying Mandarin beyond the funding of this project; and
  + give pupils an immersive experience of China through digital media and in-school events .

**Requirements**

In order to take part in the programme, it is highly desirable that you should:

* have an Ofsted rating in your most recent inspection of 1 (outstanding) or 2 (good)
* already be committed to a strong presence of two or more languages on curriculum
* Be committed to teaching Mandarin Chinese to MEP pupils for whom that is not their first language

Schools on the programme should also be able to do the following:

* provide a programme of at least eight hours a week, made up of a combination of class-time teaching, extra-curricular teaching, self-study and intensive language courses in China and the UK. This should include four hours of teacher-taught classroom lessons, ensuring a rigorous programme of study for all pupils in the programme.
* act as or work with a hub school, growing the number of schools and pupils in the local area on the programme, to contribute towards meeting the national minimum target of 5,000 Mandarin pupils on track to a high level of fluency by 2020. This includes retaining pupils on the programme so that they reach a high level of fluency, through the delivery of the rigorous programme of study and other activities.
* work to ensure that pupils will be on course to complete HSK IV and V exams within 6 years of starting the programme. Pupils should also be on course to complete Chinese GCSE and A Level, IB or Pre-U qualifications during and beyond the programme lifespan.

**Expression of Interest – Mandarin Excellence Programme**

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| Name of school |  |
| Name of Headteacher & Email Address |  |
| Name and email address/phone number of contact completing this template |  |
| What languages are currently taught at your school? |  |
| How many (if any) pupils are currently taught Mandarin Chinese in each year in your school? (please do not include pupils for whom Chinese is their native language)  Schools who have not taught Mandarin before can leave this section blank. | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Pupils** | | **Year 7** |  | | **Year 8** |  | | **Year 9** |  | | **Year 10** |  | | **Year 11** |  | | **Year 12** |  | | **Year 13** |  | |
| How many hours of Mandarin does your school teach per week in each year, divided into:   1. taught time in the classroom 2. extra-curricular provision   Schools who have not taught Mandarin before can leave this section blank. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | **Classroom taught time** | **Extra-curricular time** | | **Year 7** |  |  | | **Year 8** |  |  | | **Year 9** |  |  | | **Year 10** |  |  | | **Year 11** |  |  | | **Year 12** |  |  | | **Year 13** |  |  | |
| How many (if any) non-native pupils achieved a grade B or higher at Chinese GCSE in 2018? |  |
| Please describe how you might deliver four hours of teacher-taught classroom lessons a week.  A minimum of two of these hours must be delivered within the schools core timetable. If required, the remaining two hours can be delivered through extra sessions, such as a ‘period 6’ provision or similar offered at your school. |  |
| Please describe what benefits your school will be able to bring to the programme and to mainstreaming the teaching of Chinese in state schools (no more than 200 words – please write your response below if you need more space) |  |

The next intake of Mandarin Excellence Programme schools will start delivering the programme in September 2019.

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