

## ■ IB Mandarin ab initio

### Introduction

This course is designed to introduce students to learning and using Mandarin Chinese. The course is for anyone who is interested in China and Mandarin without previous experience of the language. Lessons are taught in a communicative and interactive way. Students will be able to develop their linguistic skills through various situations. The course will begin with basic Chinese words, pronunciation and grammar. This will allow the student to gain the confidence to communicate in everyday Chinese. Students will be able to begin to read and write short passages in Chinese. Meanwhile, one of the most important purposes of this course is to give students an insight into Chinese culture, values and the way of life. The course also includes other topics such as the traditional Chinese festivals, Chinese foods, Ancient Chinese history and science, modern Chinese cities and the modern economic revolution.

### Core Syllabus

At the ab initio level, the course covers seven daily life topics, which students should be easily pick up. Students' speaking, listening, reading and writing skills can be developed through the following topics below:

个人 (the individual)	休闲与旅游 (leisure and travel)
教育和职业 (education and work)	环境 (the environment)
商业区和服务 (town and services)	健康与紧急情况 (health and emergencies)
饮食 (food and drink)	其它 (others)

### Assessment

The assessment is combined into two parts: the internal oral assessment (30%) and external written assessment, (70%). The external assessment comprises two written papers. Paper 1: text handing exercises based on four short texts, and Paper 2: two writing tasks, requiring 72 and 144 characters.