



The Crossley Heath School

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Year 9 Mandarin Curriculum

21st July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to advise you of the MEP curriculum for next academic year. As you will be aware, it is a requirement of the Mandarin Excellence Programme that students have 4 lessons of taught Chinese each week throughout years 7, 8 and 9. During years 7 and 8, students have had 4 hours of Mandarin in lieu of European languages (2 hours of French and 2 hours of German). In Year 9 the timetable allocates 2 hours of curriculum time dedicated to languages them which means that, MEP students are still required to study a further 2 lessons of taught Mandarin as a core part of the programme.

Therefore, the school puts the following provision in place for MEP students:

- 2 hours of Chinese in the MFL block (normal lessons)
- 1 hour of MEP Chinese instead of one of their 2 Core PE lessons. All students will still have 1 Core PE lesson each week.
- 1 taught Chinese lesson over tutorial and into the start of lunchtime on Fridays. Students will go to their Chinese lesson at 11:50, then have their lunch break from 12:30.

These arrangements will be in place for Year 9 only, after which students will continue on the GCSE course with 2.5 hours of normal timetabled lessons from Year 10.

Intensive Study Visit to China

One of the highlights of the Mandarin Excellence Programme is the intensive study visit to China which take place at the end of Y9. However, these have been suspended during the pandemic and extended lockdowns seen in China. Recent changes in policy mean that our partners at the MEP and British Council are now more hopeful that this event may be able to take place in July of the next academic year. The school continues to work closely with our partners at UCL who oversee the MEP and we will of course keep you informed as and when more information becomes available.

If you have any further queries regarding the MEP, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Mr J. Brownlie

Mrs T. H. Kneebone



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