



Is Mandarin Chinese mainstream and accessible?

What is an up to date view of Mandarin Chinese in schools?

The following three links provide an overview:

- [How and why is Chinese different? Teaching and Learning Implications](#)
- Review of a Pearson Foundation GCSE text book to show you how a mainstream publisher has bought into Chinese - [Jin Bu review](#)
- An example of a cultural primary resources that can be used by a non Chinese speaker with Chinese language podcasts attached if desired. [Celebrating the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival.](#)

Thinking of adopting Mandarin?

- Have a strategy for finding a good teacher. We do advertise for teachers for a small charge on our geo-tagged [jobs board](#) and importantly [advise you](#) on what to look for!

- Try to learn some Chinese (see [Michel Thomas](#) (just updated) or the [OU Beginner Chinese course](#) or contact your local Chinese community school or even learn with the children/pupils and watch how children rarely have the same problems as adults

- We do admit that at some point Chinese characters will need to be learnt by rote! Understanding the accreditations helps work out to what extent writing is required and how to tackle it.

- Take into account what children like about Mandarin Chinese is it is cool, interesting as culture is easily integrated into language learning and older pupils understand the vocational power of being able to say they understand some Chinese and that they 'get' China

- Because it is a different language, when learning Mandarin Chinese, children learn to compare languages, gaining in general literacy as they understand how different languages serve the same purpose but achieve that purpose in different ways

- The cultural distance between China and the West that makes learning Chinese valuable does paradoxically raise challenges (such as finding a good teachers) that can be easily be perceived as too big to handle. To view some schools who have handsomely overcome these challenges look at:

- [Djanogly City Academy](#)
- [New Line Learning](#) (page 2) including the new [Tiger Primary School](#)
- [Dartford Boys Grammar School](#)
- [Robin Hood Primary](#)

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