



Chinese (Mandarin) Learning Matrix

Curriculum Levels 6–8

Learning Area Whakataukī:

Ko tōu reo, ko tōku reo, te tuakiri Your voice and my voice are expressions of identity.
tangata. Tīhei uriuri, tīhei nakonako May our descendants live on and our hopes be fulfilled

Big Ideas				
Learning languages is about communicating with people across cultures	Every language expresses meaning through unique spoken, written, and visual forms	Language, culture, and identity are inextricably linked	Learning more than one language encourages diverse ways of thinking	Language learning is an empowering process that requires risk-taking and fosters resilience and perseverance
Significant Learning				
Across all Curriculum Levels, students will...				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be exposed to, practise, and enjoy experimenting with a wide range of spoken, written, and visual language • build a growing awareness of the processes involved in additional language acquisition, including sustained, repeated practice, risk taking, and learning from mistakes • show increasing recognition of connections and contrasts between Chinese (Mandarin) and their first language and develop the ability to navigate between them • explore how language and culture affect, and work together in, communication • grow intercultural awareness by exploring their own and Chinese cultures and questioning assumptions and stereotypes • develop awareness that there can be different ways of representing sound in writing between and within languages. 				
At Curriculum Level 6, students will...		At Curriculum Level 7 (indicative only), students will...		At Curriculum Level 8 (indicative only), students will...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • engage with, and make meaning of, short text types in everyday contexts • explore language commonly used to express personal information and ideas related to everyday situations • develop communicative skills to present simple information and interact with others in a range of predictable contexts • develop a foundational awareness of and use the key building blocks and patterns of the language 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • engage with, and make meaning of, a variety of text types in familiar contexts • explore language commonly used to elaborate on information and compare and contrast ideas related to familiar topics • develop communicative skills to present information in more detail and have extended interactions with others in a range of familiar contexts • develop a growing awareness of and use a range of building blocks and patterns of the language 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • engage with, and make meaning of, a variety of extended text types in societal contexts • explore language used to examine topics of both personal and societal relevance • develop communicative skills to organise information effectively and sustain interactions with others on topics of societal relevance, adapting to less predictable contexts • develop an awareness of and use more complex linguistic building blocks and language patterns



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explore the use of script and the connection between script and pronunciation in everyday contexts • develop a foundational awareness that oral features such as pronunciation, tones, and intonations can communicate different meanings • recognise and develop an awareness that there are different registers of language • acquire simple linguistic strategies and basic knowledge of how to use resources to make meaning from unfamiliar language • recognise values and practices related to Chinese cultures in everyday contexts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explore the use of script and the connection between script and pronunciation in familiar contexts • begin to use oral features such as pronunciation, tones, and intonations to communicate different meanings • begin to use different registers of language • expand their linguistic strategies and knowledge of how to use resources to make meaning from unfamiliar language • compare and contrast values, practices, and perspectives, of Chinese cultures with values, practices, and perspectives of their own cultures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explore the use of script and the connection between script and pronunciation in societal contexts • use oral features such as pronunciation, tones, and intonations with growing confidence to communicate different meanings • use a range of different registers of language with growing confidence • select with growing confidence from a range of linguistic strategies and resources to make meaning from unfamiliar language • examine and reflect on the ways in which cultural values, practices, and perspectives shape experiences and influence opinions.
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