

# WHO ARE WE AND WHAT DO WE DO?

**DIRECTOR**

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**JENNIE KING**

**HEAD OF  
MANDARIN**

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**SHAN LANE**

**TEACHERS**

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**SHIAO CHEN CHANG**

**VICKY WU**

**YING MENG-BIRKETT**

Three High Schools in an independent partnership

Fifteen feeder and link Primary Schools

Three Local Authorities across Tyne and Wear

THE ACCELERATED MANDARIN PROGRAM AT  
WHITBURN CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



# 加速普通話節目

Jennie King

Director of Swire Chinese Language Centre, Newcastle

Shan Lane

AMP Lead Teacher of Mandarin for Swire Chinese Language Centre and Head of Mandarin at Newcastle High School for Girls

# HOW IS THE FIRST COHORT OF AMP AFTER ONE YEAR?

- Successful start to teaching and learning AMP
- Pupil targets exceeded
- Links with Taiwan and China established
- Website and social media
- AMP specific programme of study and resources
- Resource development Links with SCLP
- Excellent pupil engagement
- Excellent pupil progress against national standards

# WHY STUDY MANDARIN?

Mandarin Chinese is the most widely spoken language in the world.

China is one of our most important trading partners.

China has a population of 1.4 billion and a fast growing economy.

China has become the world's second largest economy.



# WHY STUDY MANDARIN?

- It is vital that young people in the UK master other languages in order for the country to remain globally competitive in the future.
- We believe that by offering Mandarin we will give students a cutting edge advantage in this increasingly competitive world. As China is playing a more and more important role in every aspect of the world, the ability to communicate with Chinese people is becoming a significant advantage in employment.



# WHICH PUPILS WILL MANDARIN APPEAL TO?

Mandarin should appeal to students who like learning languages.

Mandarin should appeal to students who are good at music.

Mandarin is a very logical language for those who enjoy STEM subjects.

Anyone who can keep an open mind and a persistent and diligent approach to their studies can learn Mandarin well.

Future Scientists, computing students and engineers will find the addition of Mandarin to their STEM skills as a very attractive CV combination.

# IS THE COURSE ACCESSIBLE TO PUPILS?

Many students find Mandarin easy to pronounce as they will be able to relate many of its sounds to English.

Unlike European languages, Mandarin does not have complicated grammar, such as tense, gender, or plural forms; so students can focus on learning the characters and matching these to sounds.

We hope to give all students the opportunity to participate in a subsidised visit to China to enhance their language skills in October 2020.



# OUR PARTNERSHIP

The Swire Chinese Language Programme was founded in 2016 to improve the quality, quantity, and reach of the teaching of the Chinese language in the UK.

Funding from the Swire Chinese Language Foundation created Swire Chinese Language Centres, working with various schools across the country



# OUR PARTNERSHIP

Their common aim is for students of all ages to gain greater access to Chinese language teaching, and that greater interest in the language and Chinese culture will be generated.

The AMP at Whitburn is funded by the Swire Chinese Language Centre Newcastle. We were the first school in the North East delivering the full AMP programme with the regional hub schools St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic High School, Newcastle starting in 2019 and High School for Girls in 2020.



# WHAT DOES COMMITMENT TO THE AMP LOOK LIKE?

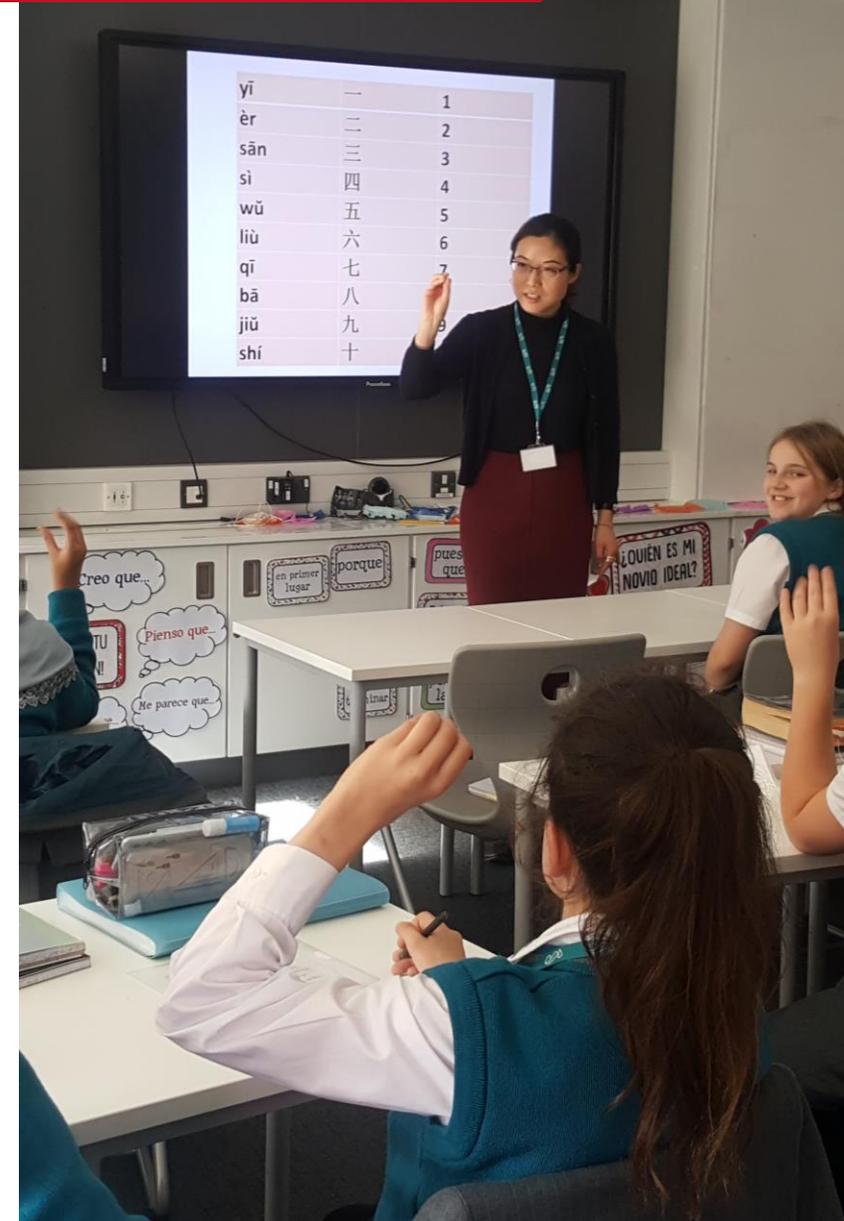
Whitburn Church of England Academy will be the first state school in the area to offer our students the opportunity to learn Mandarin to GCSE level in 2023.

This course involves an accelerated learning programme with the current cohort of Year 7 students being the first to have this opportunity through our new Accelerated Mandarin Programme.

This is a highly intensive, academic programme which requires a 5 year commitment from students and their parents/carers.

We have planned for up to two classes to study Mandarin.

Mandarin will be the automatic choice in one option block for Years 10 and 11, leaving students with two remaining choices.



# THE APPLICATION PROCESS

We advise parents and carers to discuss the commitment required with your child to ensure that they are fully aware of the implications.

In the event of the course being oversubscribed, we will use combined SAT scores in Reading and Maths to place students in rank order to award places.

To apply for a place on the course, please complete the application form and return it the Academy Main Office by **Friday 26th April**. A copy of the application is available online and in paper form if you wish to complete, Please email it or post it to [office@whitburncofeacademy.org](mailto:office@whitburncofeacademy.org) with the subject heading "Mandarin".

Places will be confirmed by our first new Year 6 Induction Day and Parent/carers' Evening (Thursday 11th July 2019)

