

# What lessons have we learned from the Mandarin Excellence Programme?

Katharine Carruthers, UCL Institute of Education



**Mandarin  
Excellence  
Programme**



Department  
for Education



Institute of Education



## Mandarin Excellence Programme Evaluation Report 2019/2020

A report for the UCL IOE Confucius Institute for Schools and  
the Department for Education

Research Stories incorporating monitoring  
and evaluation from In2Impact



Research  
Stories



Mandarin  
Excellence  
Programme

The Mandarin Excellence  
Programme (MEP)  
independent evaluation is now  
publicly available on the MEP  
webpages

[https://ci.ioe.ac.uk/mep-  
independent-evaluation/](https://ci.ioe.ac.uk/mep-independent-evaluation/)

MEP began in 2016. Initially a four year programme with funding of £10 million. Since evaluation in 2020 the programme has been extended.

MEP responds to the growing importance of Mandarin as a global language.

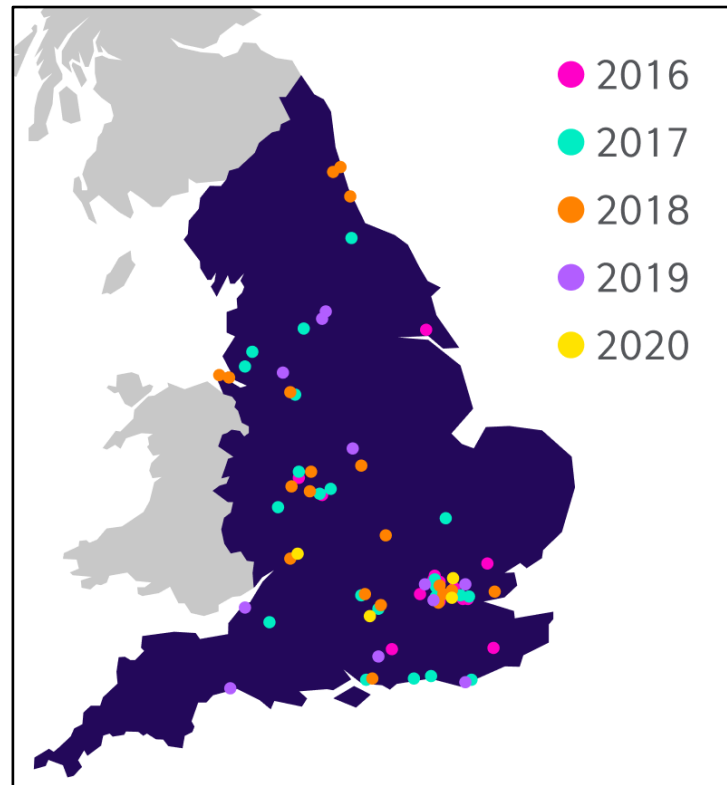
It is open to all state secondary schools in England with an Ofsted rating of 'Good' or 'Outstanding'



## Aims & Targets

**To have at least 5,000 students on track to fluency in Mandarin by 2020 in schools in diverse geographical locations.**

At present there are almost 7,000 pupils participating in MEP in more than 70 state schools.



The DfE intended MEP to be;

- A school-led Programme, translating centralised guidance and support into local practice
- An opportunity for schools with strong existing Mandarin Chinese delivery to act as Hubs to support schools new to Mandarin teaching
- Complementary to wider initiatives to boost the supply of Mandarin teachers in England

## School Delivery Model

4 hours face to face teaching

4 hours self study

Intensive language learning

End of Year Tests



## Key Findings from the Independent Evaluation

- More than 5,000 pupils had enrolled on the programme by 2020.
- Pupils sitting annual Mandarin ‘Hurdle Tests’ at the end of each school year are achieving excellent results.
- The first cohort of MEP pupils who joined the programme in September 2016 are on track to obtain strong GCSE results.
- Teachers continue to believe that their students show increased and accelerated learning and a much broader language and cultural knowledge base relative to non-MEP learners.

- On average 95% of students participating in the programme have been retained from one year to the next.
- Many teachers and school leaders talk positively about the impact of MEP on students' self-esteem and the development of a sense of pride and obligation among participants.
- There are several schools which have embraced MEP successfully while serving communities which are relatively deprived.





*“In our area of social deprivation, the MEP offers life-changing opportunities.”*

**Headteacher/School leader**

*“It offers a new and interesting curriculum alongside the already established one. Parents are genuinely interested in what this offers their children.”*

**Headteacher/School leader**

*“This programme has revolutionised the way our students learn languages and given our students the most amazing enrichment opportunities which has brought this language to life in many different contexts.”*

**Headteacher/School leader**

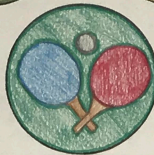
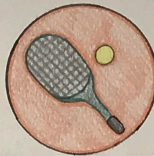
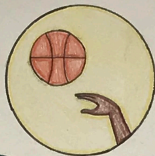
## Factors for success

- Intensive learning boosts contact hours and gives continuous language exposure.
- Year 8 Intensive Study in China has a strong motivational impact and embeds learning.
- CLEC teachers from China have contributed to Mandarin language learning in the schools/hubs where they are in post.
- Teacher supply and staff turnover – many schools rely on one Mandarin teacher.
- Financial support has been crucial for schools in delivering MEP.

## Challenges & Lessons Learned

- Timetabling and teaching capacity remains the major challenge to sustaining an intensive learning programme.
- Hub and Spoke support should be focused where it is needed / most wanted.
- Schools benefit from sharing experiences for student recruitment.
- Pathways to KS5 - Teachers have concerns over existing Mandarin A-Level and the withdrawal of Cambridge Pre-U.
- Technology should be used to enhance accessibility to teacher training and for online resources.

# S · P · O · R · T



FOOTBALL · 踢足球 · tī zú qiú BASKETBALL · 打篮球 · dǎ lán qiú  
 SWIMMING · 游泳 · yóu yǒng TENNIS · 打网球 · dǎ wǎng qiú  
 PING PONG · 打乒乓球 · dǎ ping pāng qiú CYCLING · 骑车 · qí chē  
 RUNNING · 跑步 · pǎo bù SPORTS · 运动 · yùn dòng



你好！我叫 Emery。我喜欢运动。我很喜欢打网球也喜欢打乒乓球和骑车。我不喜欢踢足球。星期一和星期三我打网球。星期五我打乒乓球。星期六我骑车。  
 Hello! My name is Emery. I like sports. I really like play tennis also like play ping pong and cycling. I don't like play football. Monday and Wednesday I play tennis. Friday I play ping pong. Saturday I Cycle.



你好！我叫 Robyn。我喜欢运动。我很喜欢踢足球也喜欢游泳和跑步。我不喜欢打乒乓球。星期三和星期四我踢足球。星期六我游泳。星期一我跑步。  
 Hello! My name is Robyn. I like sports. I really like play football also like go swimming and go running. I don't like play ping pong. Wednesday and Thursday I play football. Saturday I go swimming. Monday I go running.



你好！我叫 Jaylah。我喜欢运动。我很喜欢打篮球也喜欢跑步和骑车。我不喜欢游泳。星期四和星期六我打篮球。星期日跑步。星期二骑车。  
 Hello! My name is Jaylah. I like sports. I really like play basketball also like go running and cycling. I don't like swimming. Thursday and Saturday I play basketball. Sunday I go running. Tuesday I go cycling.

### Creative writing

我是鸟。我叫天天。  
我四岁了。我的生日  
是二十月五日。我  
的主八叫Farha。她  
有爸爸妈妈两姐姐  
和一个弟弟(他三岁  
了!)。我的主八喜欢  
的颜色是蓝色和我  
喜欢天蓝色。她也  
喜欢红色但是不喜  
欢绿色。我也不喜  
欢绿色。她十二岁  
了。她的生日是九  
月十七日。

Farha Shameem 7A.





# 隔离的生活

Liliana  
Dąbrowska  
你呢?



早上好!你好吗?我很累。我是我的朋友。我每天上午九点起床。我吃早饭。然后我做作业。我有许多作业:历史,美术,地理,体育,中文,西班牙语,英文,音乐,数学,科学和语文作业。我不喜欢做作业因为我感觉没有意思。我中午吃午饭。放学后,我做作业。下午五点吃晚饭。我和爸爸一起看电视。我们六点钟回家。我做作业,看电视和看书。晚上九点钟睡觉。我不喜欢睡觉因为我感觉不好。我觉得很着急。我和爸爸。我是我的朋友和爸爸。我每天都做完了作业不好玩。你呢?



早上好!你好吗?我很高兴。你是我是我的朋友。我每天上午九点起床。我吃早饭。看电视。然后我做作业。我有许多作业。我和爸爸一起踢球。我们六点钟回家。我喜欢足球和篮球。足球和篮球很好玩。我和爸爸一起看电影。我每天下午二点吃午饭。然后我做作业。放学后,上网。看视频和爸爸一起打球。我画画。我画画画因为我感觉很有趣。也很容易。我做作业。我和爸爸一起看电视。晚上九点吃晚饭。我看电影。我每天九点睡觉。我喜欢学校因为学校很好玩。你是我的朋友。你呢?



早上好!你好吗?我很累和难过。我是我的朋友。我每天上午九点起床。我上午十点起床。我上午十一点起床。我吃早饭。我做作业。我有许多作业。我想和爸爸看电影。我想和爸爸踢足球。但是我有许多作业。我下午二点吃午饭。我下午二点吃午饭。我下午二点吃午饭。我做作业。我想和爸爸一起看电视。我想和爸爸一起看电视。你是我的朋友。你呢?



生日：二零零六年三月八日

学历：物理博士

电话：零七四一三，三八六五二零

身高：一百七十厘米

地址：伦敦市中心

电子邮件：aryan@gmail.com

国籍：英国人

#### 技能：

我会弹很多乐器：  
吉他，钢琴，和长号。

我会说英文，中文，和德文。我能说流利这些的语言。

我很健康，所以，我会不但跑步跑得很快，而且游泳游得特别强烈。

在一个餐，我能吃非常多蛋白，因为，我总是太饿了。

## 名字 ARYAN GILL

### 宇航员

#### 描述：

请让我自我介绍，我叫 Aryan Gill。我十四岁，我也长得又高又瘦。我的朋友们觉得虽然我有时候生气，但是我经常既有礼貌又有帮助。我总是努力极了，因此我显然应该是宇航员。那是为什么你们要给我这份工作！比起生物学和化学，我更喜欢物理学，因为，他们没有物理学重要。因此，我认为物理学是最好的科学。我认识的人一直说，“我太认真了”，可是，我觉得这真好。我通常尤其可靠，我也很有动力。我每天都说，“不管多大的困难，我能克服！”

#### 爱好和兴趣：

我有很多爱好和兴趣，因为，我喜欢做很多事情。由于斯诺克比踢足球战略性多了，所以我最喜欢的运动是斯诺克。我对看物理书有兴趣，特别是量子物理学和宇宙学。在空闲时间，我爱一边听古典音乐一边做武术。做武术是我最喜欢的活动，但是，我常常没有时间，因为我有作业。因为我爸爸是飞行员，所以我十年想了当宇航员。我要和外星人一起见面！



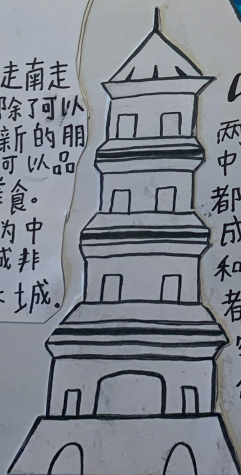
# 我的世界之旅



我喜欢走南走北, 因为除了可以交到很多新的朋友以外, 我还可以品尝不用国家的美食。

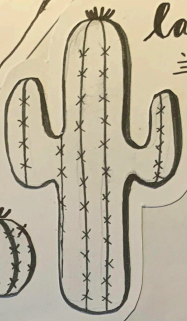
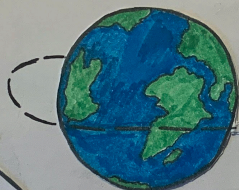
明年我想去北京, 因为中国有句古话, 不到长城非好汉, 所以我要去爬长城。

Luka, Kingsford Community School, Year 10



## Chengdu 成都

两年前我和我的同学去了中国的成都。我觉得成都不仅漂亮而且很活泼。成都有很多熊猫, 我和我的同学参观了成都大熊猫繁育研究基地。在成都我们吃了很多饭, 我们吃面条、火锅和奶黄包。

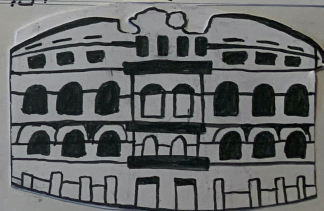


## Lanzarote 兰萨罗特岛

兰萨罗特岛是西班牙的一座小岛。兰萨罗特岛很热。每天都是晴天。我, 我的朋友和家人骑马马它。骑马它很可爱。我们爬了火山。我最喜欢火山因为很酷。

## Pula 普拉

去年我和我的家人去了克罗地亚的普拉。在普拉我吃了很多鱼。我喜欢吃鱼因为我觉鱼又好吃又新鲜。我们去了海汉佳海滩。海汉佳不但很漂亮而且很安静。那里的人很友善。



## Paris 巴黎

我去巴黎。巴黎是法国的首都。我看到艾菲尔铁塔。我们参观了卢浮宫因为我喜欢绘画。我最喜欢的假期是迪士尼乐园因为那是神奇的。





# 黑人的命也是命

大家好!今天,我将写一些非常严肃的事情。  
**种族主义**。在最近的新闻中,我们了解到另一个黑人在美国被警察杀害。



不但这种情况不仅发生在美国,而且发生英国。警察将男子的膝盖放在男子的脖子上,持续了八分四十六秒。在这段时间内,该男子尖叫了十六次。**我无法呼吸。**  
在过去的六年中,美国警察现已杀死了一千多名黑人。

一方面,这场悲剧带来了一些好处,在美国、伦敦和全世界的每个州的议活动,不仅是黑人,而且是所有种族。这场反对种族主义的斗争我们需要**正义和平等**。

B L M



Schools that are interested in joining the programme, starting in September 2021 should visit <https://ci.ioe.ac.uk/mandarin-excellence-programme/join/>

For more information about MEP  
please email us at

[mandarinexcellence@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:mandarinexcellence@ucl.ac.uk)

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