

Elective – Mandarin 1 (Foundation)

Time: 5 x 35 minutes per week

Course Description:

At the beginning of the program, Grade 1 Foundation students are introduced to the proper way of pronouncing of the Chinese Roman spelling known as Hanyu Pinyin and the four tones. Next, they are brought to experience and understand the pictorial and symbolic world of Chinese character (Hanzi). As they learn the form of the basic Hanzi in relation to the original form of the meaning, they also practise to trace and write the basic strokes and Hanzi in the appropriate steps. Pinyin and tones recognition are trained along with the process as they gain knowledge that different tones will mean different meanings and different Hanzi. In Semester 2, with the strong foundation that has been built during Semester 1, students will learn about practical topics through reading, conversation, role-play, sentence building, story writing and oral presentation. The knowledge on basic Hanzi will help them to step further to radical and its role as a component that determines the meaning of a Hanzi as a whole.

Resources:

Textbook:

- Yamin Ma (2005) 'Chinese Made Easy for Kids Textbook 1 轻松学汉语少儿版（课本）1', *Joint Publishing (H.K.) Co. Ltd.*, Hong Kong.
- 'Fun with Chinese Words 学写基础华文字', *Novum Organum Publishing House Pte. Ltd.* (2002), Singapore.

Exercise book:

- Yamin Ma (2005) 'Chinese Made Easy for Kids Workbook 1 轻松学汉语少儿版（练习本）1', *Joint Publishing (H.K.) Co. Ltd.*, Hong Kong.

Main Topics Covered:

Semester 1

- Pinyin System, Pronunciation and Tones
- Basic Numbers
- Introduction to Hanzi: basic strokes, steps and number of strokes.
- Greetings
- Courtesy
- Classroom expressions and instructions
- Basic Hanzi: 50

Semester 2

- Name and Surname
- Family (1)
- Age
- Colours (1)
- Our School Uniforms
- Parts of Our Body and Adjectives

Assessment

Internal Assessment	Weighting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic tests • Class work & Homework 	<p>80</p> <p>20</p>