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Guidance

Join the Mandarin Excellence Programme

This programme funds and supports schools to deliver intensive Mandarin study, and to develop teachers and help them increase the number of pupils studying Mandarin.

From: [Department for Education](#)

Published 21 September 2018

Last updated 24 December 2021 — [See all updates](#)

Applies to England

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What you can get

The Mandarin Excellence Programme offers:

- £20,000 a year for schools in the programme
- extra payments for student retention and for yearly intensive learning
- partnership with a hub school to help you develop the programme
- specially designed teacher meetings for professional development and to share ideas and resources
- an online professional network
- online teaching materials and resources
- support and guidance from the programme coordinator

Who can join the programme

The programme is open to:

- all state-funded secondary schools in England with 'good' or 'outstanding' Ofsted ratings
- highly able and motivated key stage 3 pupils (pupils begin the programme in year 7)
- schools who are committed to developing a strong curriculum presence of Mandarin Chinese
- schools who can ensure students study Mandarin for an average of 8 hours per week, with a minimum of 4 hours face to face teaching

When it's available

The programme is currently at full capacity with 75 schools participating. Places may become available for new schools to start the programme in September 2022.

What it costs

The programme is free.

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Collection

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How to apply


Read the application process on the [Mandarin Excellence Programme website](#) and email mandarinexcellence@ucl.ac.uk.

Find out more

See the [Mandarin Excellence Programme website](#) for more information.

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