



## YMCA of Hong Kong Christian College

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### **SCHOOL-BASED CHINESE PROGRAMME INFORMATION SHEET**

The YMCA of Hong Kong Christian College offers a school-based Chinese Programme for all students. The aim of this programme is to help students master the Chinese language skills needed for their future lives and for higher education, as well as develop a deep appreciation of Chinese culture.

All students are required to study Chinese from Form 1 to Form 6. Based on information provided by parents and the result of the benchmark test, students will be allocated by the school to the most appropriate course, ranging from IGCSE Chinese to the Hong Kong Secondary School Chinese Curriculum. The set allocation will be reviewed from time to time and students may be reallocated to a more appropriate set to suit their learning needs.

Please note that the school-based Chinese Programme enables students to progress to either the Hong Kong Stream (HKDSE curriculum) or the International Stream (GCE A-level curriculum) in senior forms.

Please also note that students in Forms 1 – 3 taking Regular Chinese or Adapted Chinese have **equal opportunity** when applying for the Hong Kong Stream or the International Stream in senior forms. The type of Chinese language curriculum studied is not one of the factors used to determine which stream students are allocated to. The allocation criteria include effort grades, overall academic performance, etc.

As per the requirement of the Education Bureau, applicants with one of the following backgrounds **must** study the Hong Kong Chinese Curriculum if s/he takes the HKDSE examinations in Form 6:

- Students who have studied the local Chinese language curriculum for 6 years or more in primary school.
- The home spoken language is Chinese. (If the parents and students' nationality or ethnicity and names are Chinese, the EDB will consider the home spoken language to be Chinese.)

#### **Public Examinations**

(1) Students allocated to the Hong Kong Stream in senior forms will take the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Chinese Language examination at the end of Form 6, *or*, if the students are categorized as Non-Chinese Speaking, they will take IGCSE Chinese as a Second

Language *or* IGCSE Chinese (Mandarin) Foreign Language at the end of Form 4. In Forms 5 and 6, students follow a school-based curriculum which may lead to an additional HSK\* qualification.

(2) Students allocated to the International Stream in senior forms will take IGCSE Chinese as a First Language *or* IGCSE Chinese as a Second Language *or* IGCSE Chinese (Mandarin) Foreign Language at the end of Form 4. In Forms 5 and 6, students follow a school-based curriculum which may lead to an additional GCE A-level Chinese or HSK\* qualification.

\*Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK) – Similar to IELTS, which is used as evidence of English language proficiency, the HSK is an official examination designed to assess the Chinese language proficiency of non-native Chinese speakers from beginners (level 1) to advanced (level 6). This course is designed for students who have a good background in Chinese and have already achieved IGCSE Chinese (Mandarin) Foreign Language.

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