

# Discovering China 发现中国

National Qualifications

Course Handbook 2026-2027

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## Introduction

Welcome to the SCILT Discovering China programme! Thank you for partnering with us as we seek to enable high quality Mandarin teaching and learning to be accessed across the country. We look forward to working with you.

SCILT, Scotland's National Centre for Languages, is based at the University of Strathclyde. It works to support a wealth of language learning and diversity across Scotland's communities and, as part of this work, promotes the development of Chinese language education in schools.

This programme consists of the following components:

- a 10-week Primary course
- a 10-week Secondary BGE course
- a full suite of National Qualifications courses:
  - National 4 Mandarin
  - National 5 Mandarin
  - Higher Mandarin
  - Advanced Higher Mandarin

**This handbook relates to the National Qualifications courses.**

## Technical Information

Microsoft Teams within Glow is the online platform which is the means of delivering all live lessons.

- To enable access to the online learning, all staff and learners must register using their GLOW accounts in advance of the start of the course.
- Learners will be added to their group's Team in Microsoft Teams. Live lessons will take place within the Team. In addition to their live lessons, learners will be able to communicate with the Mandarin teacher through Teams and will also be able to access a variety of course materials to support and enhance their learning.
- There is currently no facility to record lessons in Microsoft Teams within Glow.
- Please ensure that there is a suitable learning environment for live online classes. This will consist of:
  - good internet access
  - a dedicated classroom, even for smaller classes, in order to ensure a quiet learning environment
  - a built-in or external video camera
  - a microphone



## Role of the SCILT GTCS Mandarin teacher

The SCILT Mandarin teacher will be responsible for the following:

- Course and lesson planning.
- Preparation of all course materials.
- Delivery of all online lessons via the Microsoft Teams platform
- Sending any materials needed to the contact teacher in school ahead of each lesson.
- Uploading materials to Microsoft Teams for learners to access between lessons.
- Preparing feedback for parents/school as appropriate.
- Setting and marking of all National Qualifications assessments, including moderation and verification of these materials.
- Preparing learners for all externally-assessed course components (Writing and Talking – National 5/Higher/Advanced Higher).
- Providing and marking a full prelim (National 5/Higher/Advanced Higher)
- Preparing learner reports after each point of assessments, including prelims. These will be passed on to schools for dissemination in their preferred format.
- Hosting an online parents' evening in February.
- Liaising with each school's SQA co-ordinator regarding all aspects of presentation.

## Role of the presenting school

Although SCILT will conduct all class teaching and assessment, including internally conducted assessments submitted to SQA, the school will remain the presenting centre for each candidate. Schools, and in particular the SQA co-ordinator within each school, will therefore be responsible for:

- Ensuring that the school is approved by SQA to present candidates in Mandarin (Simplified) at the appropriate level(s). Auto-approval is in place for Mandarin in schools, but notification to SQA via the relevant paperwork must still take place.
- Completing an SQA Partnership Agreement, confirming key areas of responsibility of each party.
- Entering candidates for presentation at the appropriate level(s).
- Submitting coursework/evidence/marks to SQA in accordance with deadlines given.
- Administering the prelim provided (National 5/Higher) during the school's prelim timetable.
- Submitting verification materials if requested by SQA. Materials to be submitted will be prepared by the SCILT GTCS Mandarin teacher.
- Submitting AAA applications and arranging resulting provision for candidates.
- Facilitating candidates sitting SQA Mandarin exams in school, including provision of Chinese dictionaries and appropriate arrangements for Listening exams. SCILT will have native speakers of Mandarin on stand-by on the day of the National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher exams in the event of any problem with the Listening materials supplied by SQA, and will assist virtually if necessary.

Please note that while learners studying with us for National Qualifications will be fully supported throughout their course, the courses do all require an element of independent study and this should be discussed with learners from the outset.

## Role of the supervising teacher(s) in school

It is possible that learners may access some of their Discovering China classes from home through a blended learning approach. However, accessing from school will, circumstances permitting, be the standard procedure for the Discovering China programme, and for this the following conditions will apply:

- A named teacher from each school will be the contact point for the SCILT Mandarin teacher and will liaise closely with them.
- A GTCS registered teacher will be present in the class during each lesson. This may not necessarily be the same as the named contact teacher, depending on timetabling restrictions.
- This teacher will be responsible for registering learners according to school procedures, and for monitoring behaviour within the class as necessary.
- This teacher will be responsible for ensuring that learners have any necessary materials for the lesson (eg by printing worksheets that have been sent by the Mandarin teacher, having dictionaries ready, etc).
- This teacher will access the lesson on Microsoft Teams and will display it on the class whiteboard/screen.

In order to deliver the best possible learning experience:

- The named teacher from each school will liaise regularly via email/virtual conversation with the Mandarin teacher in order to share any concerns or address any questions.
- This teacher will also ensure that the GTCS Mandarin teacher is informed of any AAA requirements or other relevant information pertaining to pupils in the Mandarin class.
- This named contact point will be responsible for give feedback to parents through the school system of reporting; as stated above, the information required for this will be prepared by the Mandarin teacher.

In order to ensure a smooth and secure approach to assessment:

- All assessments must be carried out under controlled conditions as stipulated by SQA; the Mandarin teacher will supervise these remotely and the GTCS registered teacher from each school should supervise directly in class to ensure that this is the case.
- The named teacher will be responsible for ensuring that assessment materials are sent to SCILT for correction.

Please see the Guide to Assessment in Appendix 1 for a full explanation of our assessment procedures.

## Programme Overview

### Secondary National 4, National 5, Higher & Advanced Higher

#### National 4 Mandarin – Sample Timeline

Based on 3 hours of classes per week. Actual timeline may vary depending on circumstances.

<b>August</b>	Society – family, friends Culture – travel & holidays
<b>September</b>	Society – lifestyle
<b>October</b>	Society – media, languages, citizenship
<b>November</b>	Learning Employability
<b>December</b>	Culture – festivals, films
<b>January</b>	AVU/other assessments as appropriate
<b>February/March</b>	Finish any remaining topic work
<b>March/April</b>	Complete all remaining assessments

## National 4 Mandarin – Contexts and topics

<b>Society</b>	<b>Family and friends</b>	Saying how you get on with family members/ house rules/housework (gender roles)/ what makes a good friend/importance of friends
	<b>Lifestyle</b>	Physical, mental and social wellbeing, eg sport and relaxation methods
	<b>Media</b>	TV, cinema, music, computers and computer games, TV viewing habits
	<b>Global languages</b>	Languages — language use
	<b>Citizenship</b>	Roles and responsibilities, being a global citizen
<b>Learning</b>	<b>Learning in context</b>	Learning in modern languages/in each subject/ record of achievement
	<b>Education</b>	Purpose of education/pressures of learning/the role of the teacher/learner
<b>Employability</b>	<b>Jobs</b>	Pocket money and managing money, advantages/disadvantages of different jobs
	<b>Work and CVs</b>	Planning for work experience/preparing CVs/ambitions
<b>Culture</b>	<b>Planning a trip</b>	Choice of destination/transport/activity options/evaluation of trip
	<b>Other countries</b>	Impressions/aspects of other countries
	<b>Celebrating a special event</b>	Comparison of celebrations/events in another country
	<b>Literature of another country</b>	Straightforward fiction, eg poems, songs, stories
	<b>Film and television</b>	Studying films in the modern language Studying television in other countries

## National 5 Mandarin – Sample Timeline

Based on 4 hours of classes per week. Actual timeline may vary depending on circumstances.

<b>August</b>	Society – family, friends Culture – travel & holidays
<b>September</b>	Society – lifestyle - include health essay
<b>October</b>	Society – media, languages, citizenship
<b>November</b>	Learning / Employability – include school essay
	* Issue Writing Exam preparation booklet
<b>December</b>	Culture – film
	* Issue booklet to prepare Talking/Writing assessments * Prelim preparation
<b>January</b>	Culture - festivals
	* Prelims * Issue Talking exam preparation booklet
<b>February/March</b>	Talking Exams Writing Assignments Reading/Listening assessments for pupils doing units
<b>March/April</b>	Finish any remaining topic work Revision/exam preparation
	* Issue revision checklist

## National 5 Mandarin – Contexts and topics

<b>Society</b>	Family and friends	Saying how you get on with family members/who has influenced you in your life Arguments Ideal parents Different types of friends Peer pressure
	Lifestyle	Lifestyle-related illnesses Advantages + disadvantages of healthy/unhealthy lifestyle
	Media	Impact of TV reality shows Advantages/disadvantages of new technology, eg internet, mobile phones
	Global languages	Language-learning and relevance
	Citizenship	Description of local area as a tourist centre Comparison of town and country life Being environmentally friendly in the home
<b>Learning</b>	Learning in context	Talk about what learning activities you like/dislike in modern languages/in each subject Preparing for exams
	Education	Comparing education systems Improving own education system Learner responsibilities
<b>Employability</b>	Jobs	Part-time jobs and studying Qualities for present/future jobs/future plans
	Work and CVs	Planning, reporting back on work experience Reviewing achievements/ambitions
<b>Culture</b>	Planning a trip	Importance of travel and learning a foreign language Describing your best holiday/trip/attitudes to travel
	Other countries	Aspects of other countries including educational, social, historical, political aspects
	Celebrating a special event	Comparing special occasions/traditions/celebrations/events in another country Importance of customs/traditions
	Literature of another country	Literary fiction, eg short stories — understanding + analysis
	Film and television	Studying films in the modern language Studying television in other countries

## Higher Mandarin – Sample Timeline

Based on 5 hours of classes per week. Actual timeline may vary depending on circumstances.

<b>August/September</b>	Society - Family and friends: new family structures, marriage/partnership, gang culture, bullying, friendship, holidays with/without parents, prejudices about other countries
	Directed writing preparation
<b>October</b>	Society - Lifestyle: teenage problems/social influences and pressures – doing sport to combat stress, mental health, smoking, drugs and alcohol, peer pressure.
<b>November</b>	Learning - Choosing university, pros/cons of higher or further education, learning styles, gap year. Society – Global languages/citizenship: importance of language learning, including minority languages, racism
<b>December</b>	Culture - Importance of traditions, film/literature
	Prepare writing assignment Prelim preparation
<b>January</b>	Prelims Society - Media: digital age, media in China, technology
	Talking exam preparation
<b>February/March</b>	Employability - Equality in the workplace, job opportunities, part-time job/summer job
	Talking exam Writing assignment
<b>April</b>	Finish any remaining topic work Revision/exam preparation
	* Issue revision checklist

## Higher Mandarin – Contexts and topics

<b>Society</b>	Family and friends	Becoming an adult/new family structure/ marriage/partnership/gang culture/ bullying/social influences and pressures.
	Lifestyle	Teenage problems, eg smoking, drugs, alcohol.
	Media	Impact of the digital age.
	Global languages	Minority languages and their importance/association with culture.
	Citizenship	Global citizenship/democracy/politics/power.
<b>Learning</b>	Learning in context	Understanding self as a learner, eg learning styles/importance of language learning.
	Education	Advantages/disadvantages of higher or further education, choosing a university/college, lifelong learning.
<b>Employability</b>	Jobs	Getting a summer job, planning for future jobs/ higher education, gap year, career path, equality in the workplace.
	Work and CVs	Preparing for a job interview/importance of language in global contexts, job opportunities.
<b>Culture</b>	Planning a trip	Taking a gap year Working abroad (mobility) Travel
	Other countries	Living in a multicultural society/stereotypes/ prejudice and racism.
	Celebrating a special event	Social influences on/importance of traditions, customs and beliefs in another country
	Literature of another country	Literature — analysis and evaluation
	Film and television	Studying the media of another country

## Advanced Higher Mandarin – Contexts and topics

<p><b>Society</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• family relationships and structures</li> <li>• marriage, civil partnership, and/or living as a couple</li> <li>• gender equality</li> <li>• problems of young people, for example smoking, drugs, and/or alcohol</li> <li>• bullying</li> <li>• social influences and pressures</li> <li>• unemployment</li> <li>• media</li> <li>• impact of the digital age and/or technology</li> <li>• global languages</li> <li>• minority languages and their importance and/or association with culture</li> <li>• citizenship</li> <li>• democracy</li> <li>• politics and/or political engagement</li> <li>• human rights</li> <li>• environmental issues</li> </ul>
<p><b>Learning</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• learning styles</li> <li>• importance of language learning</li> <li>• advantages and/or disadvantages of higher or further education</li> <li>• choosing a university or college</li> <li>• lifelong learning</li> <li>• gap year</li> </ul>
<p><b>Employability</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• planning for future jobs</li> <li>• higher education</li> <li>• potential gap year opportunities</li> <li>• working abroad</li> <li>• career path</li> <li>• equality in the workplace</li> <li>• preparing for a job interview</li> <li>• importance of language in global contexts</li> <li>• job opportunities</li> <li>• voluntary and charitable work</li> </ul>
<p><b>Culture</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• taking a gap year</li> <li>• travel</li> <li>• living in a multicultural society</li> <li>• stereotypes</li> <li>• prejudice</li> <li>• racism</li> <li>• immigration</li> <li>• role of traditions in different cultures</li> <li>• customs and beliefs</li> <li>• literature, the media, film and television</li> </ul>

Please note that there is no sample timeline for Advanced Higher. The scheduling and topic coverage of the Advanced Higher course will be discussed and agreed with schools and learners during the registration process.

## Information for candidates - National 4

### Why study Mandarin?

Mandarin is the national language in China and Chinese is the most widely spoken language in the world. China is also the second largest economy in the world. So, learning Mandarin gives you a distinct advantage when travelling or doing business with China or other Mandarin-speaking areas. The skills that you learn in Mandarin are useful for working in areas such as business and commerce, travel and tourism and teaching.

### What do I need to get in?

You can begin the National 4 course without any previous knowledge of Mandarin.

### What will I study?

This course gives you the chance to develop skills in reading, listening, talking and writing in Mandarin, important for learning, work and life. You will also learn to understand how language works and how to get across information and ideas. You will also learn to think critically and creatively and develop cultural awareness.

You will study topics from four contexts: Society, Learning, Employability and Culture.

### How will I be assessed?

The course has **three** parts; **two** compulsory units plus an **added value** unit that assesses your practical skills.

#### 1. **Understanding Language**

In this unit you will develop **reading** and **listening** skills in Mandarin.

#### 2. **Using Language**

In this unit you will develop **talking** and **writing** skills in Mandarin.

#### 3. **Added Value Unit**

In this unit you will:

- select relevant information from at least two written texts
- give a spoken presentation in Mandarin, and respond appropriately to questions in Mandarin.

All of the assessments for these Units will be set and marked by your online Mandarin teacher. Over the course of the year, they will build up a bank of evidence to show that you have passed the units.

### What if I don't pass an assessment?

You will normally have the opportunity to retake a test on one or, in exceptional circumstances, two occasions, after you have done some extra work and have been given some more help or advice on how to improve your performance.

## Information for Candidates - National 5

### Why study Mandarin at National 5?

Mandarin is the national language in China and Chinese is the most widely spoken language in the world. China is also the second largest economy in the world. So continuing to learn Mandarin gives you a distinct advantage when travelling or doing business with China or other Mandarin-speaking areas. The skills that you learn in Mandarin are useful for working in areas such as business and commerce, travel and tourism and teaching.

### What do I need to get in?

You would normally be expected to have achieved a pass in the National 4 Mandarin (Simplified) course.

### What will I study?

This course gives you the chance to improve your skills in reading, listening, talking and writing in Mandarin, important for learning, work and life. You will also learn to understand how language works and how to get across information and ideas. You will also learn to think critically and creatively and develop cultural awareness.

You will study topics from four contexts: Society, Learning, Employability and Culture.

### How will I be assessed?

In addition to your exams (see below) you will complete a **Writing Assignment**, which will be a piece of writing in Mandarin of 150 – 250 characters. With some support, you will create and submit a piece of writing on one of three contexts: society, learning or culture. This will be completed in school and externally marked by SQA. The Writing Assignment is worth 20 marks and counts for **12.5%** of the course assessment.

In school, you will also complete a **Talking** assessment. The performance is worth 30 marks (**25%** of the total mark). You will deliver a presentation in Mandarin and then take part in a conversation with your teacher in Mandarin. The presentation and conversation will cover two (or more) of the four contexts (society, learning, employability, and culture). This will be conducted online, and will be recorded and assessed by your Mandarin teacher. The marks are sent to SQA.

At National 5 you will also sit external exams and these will assess **Reading, Listening** and **Writing**. These are as follows:

### **Paper 1: Reading and Writing**

This question paper is worth 50 marks (**37.5%** of the total mark). It has two sections.

Section one, **Reading**, is worth 30 marks. (**25%** of the total mark)

You will read three texts in Mandarin and respond to questions in English on each text. You are allowed to use a dictionary.

Section two, **Writing**, is worth 20 marks. (**12.5%** of the total mark).

You will produce one written text, a job application letter in Mandarin of 150 – 200 characters. This is in response to a stimulus supported by six bullet points which you must address. The first four bullet points are the same every year; the last two change every year. You may use a dictionary.

### **Paper 2: Listening**

This question paper is worth 20 marks (**25%** of the total mark).

You will listen to one monologue and one short conversation in Mandarin and answer questions in English about these.

## Information for Candidates - Higher

### Why study Mandarin at Higher?

You will by now have developed a solid understanding of, and ability to communicate in Mandarin. This already gives you a distinct advantage when travelling or doing business with China or other Mandarin-speaking areas, and the Higher course will develop this further. The skills that you learn in Mandarin are useful for working in areas such as business and commerce, travel and tourism and teaching.

### What do I need to get in?

You would normally be expected to have achieved a pass in the National 5 Mandarin (Simplified) course.

### What will I study?

The course consists of four key skill areas which you will practise.

#### **Understanding Mandarin - Reading and Listening**

You will:

- develop and extend reading and listening skills in Mandarin.
- develop your knowledge and understanding of detailed and complex Mandarin in the contexts of society, learning, employability, and culture.

#### **Using Mandarin – Talking and Writing**

You will:

- develop and extend talking and writing skills in Mandarin.
- develop your ability to use detailed and complex Mandarin in the contexts of society, learning, employability, and culture.

### How will I be assessed?

The course assessment has **five components totalling 120 marks:**

- Component 1: question paper 1 (reading) – worth 30 marks (25% of overall mark).
- Component 2: question paper 1 (directed writing: 180 – 240 characters) – worth 20 marks (scaled by SQA to 12.5% of overall mark).
- Component 3: question paper 2 (listening) – worth 20 marks (scaled by SQA to 25% of overall mark).
- Component 4: assignment (writing: 260-330 characters) – worth 20 marks (scaled by SQA to 12.5% of overall mark).
- Component 5: performance (talking) – worth 30 marks. (25% of overall mark).

For the assignment component, you will be required to produce a piece of writing (260-330 characters) in Mandarin based on one of the following contexts: society, learning, employability, culture.

For the performance component, you will take part in a discussion with your teacher, using detailed and complex language on at least two different contexts, and respond to questions in Mandarin relating to each of the contexts. This will be conducted online, and will be recorded and assessed by your Mandarin teacher. The marks are sent to SQA.

The grade awarded is based on the total marks achieved across course assessment, and is graded A-D.

## Information for Candidates – Advanced Higher

### Why study Mandarin at Advanced Higher?

Learning a new language allows you to connect with different people and their cultures. You think, communicate and create ideas through language. Mandarin is the national language in China and Chinese is the most widely spoken language in the world. China is also the second largest economy in the world. So, learning Mandarin to Advanced Higher level gives you a distinct advantage when travelling or doing business with China or other Mandarin-speaking areas. The skills that you learn in advanced study of Mandarin will enable you to work in areas such as business and commerce, travel and tourism and teaching.

### What do I need to get in?

You would normally be expected to have achieved a pass in the Higher Mandarin (Simplified) course.

### What will I study?

Similar to the Higher course, the Advanced Higher course consists of four key skill areas:

#### **Understanding Mandarin - Reading and Listening**

You will:

- develop and extend reading and listening skills in Mandarin.
- develop your knowledge, understanding of, and ability to critically analyse, complex and sophisticated Mandarin in the contexts of society, learning, employability, and culture.

#### **Using Mandarin – Talking and Writing**

You will:

- develop and extend talking and writing skills in Mandarin.
- develop your ability to use complex and sophisticated Mandarin in the contexts of society, learning, employability, and culture.

You will also complete a **Portfolio** – see below.

### How will I be assessed?

The course assessment consists of **four** components totalling **200** marks:

Component 1: Question paper 1 (Reading and Translation) – worth 50 marks (25% of overall mark).

Component 2: Question paper 2 (Listening and Discursive Writing) – worth 70 marks (35% of overall mark).

Component 3: Portfolio – worth 30 marks (15% of overall mark).

Component 4: Performance: Talking - worth 50 marks (25% of overall mark).

For the portfolio you will produce a piece of writing in English of 1,200 – 1,500 words, based on your analysis of either a piece of literature or media or language in work within the context of Mandarin.

The performance is a conversation of around 20 minutes conducted by a visiting assessor.

The grade awarded (A-D) is based on the total marks achieved across the course assessment.

## Appendix 1 - Guide to Assessment Arrangements

### National 4 / 5/Higher/Advanced Higher Mandarin Arrangements for Assessment Materials

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Thank you for your support in the delivery of the National 4, 5, Higher and Advanced Higher Mandarin courses this year.

In order to ensure that evidence for these courses, and the handling of pupil scripts, meet SQA requirements, we will use the following systems.

#### **Listening, Reading & Writing Assessments**

##### **Before the assessments take place**

- The contact teacher of each school will be added to a secure OneDrive folder for their school. The only scripts which will be in that folder are those candidates being presented for Mandarin courses at that school. Access to that folder is limited to the contact teacher from that school, SCILT Mandarin teachers, Sheena Bell (SCILT SQA Co-ordinator) and our external verifier.
- Assessment papers will be uploaded to that folder in advance of each test by the SCILT Mandarin teachers. The contact teacher in school will be responsible for ensuring that test papers and any relevant support materials (eg dictionaries) are available to pupils on the day of the test, as well as putting in place any additional assessment arrangements to which the pupils may be entitled.
- Listening sound files will also be uploaded to the OneDrive folder for each school and should be ready to play at the time of the test.

##### **During the assessments**

- The contact teacher in each school will ensure that there is supervision in the room in order to ensure that strict exam conditions are maintained at all times during the tests.
- The supervising teacher will collect in the pupil scripts at the end of the assessment.

##### **Following the assessments**

- Please scan each pupil's answers and upload them as PDF documents into the OneDrive folder that has been shared with you.
- SCILT Mandarin teachers will mark the pupil scripts electronically and save them into the same OneDrive folder for each school. The contact teacher in each school is responsible for returning them to pupils by printing them out so that SCILT Mandarin teachers can go over them with pupils during class. They should then be stored securely by the school together with the original pupil scripts.

## **Writing Assignments (Nat 5 and H only)**

These will be produced following the basic process above:

- Stimuli will be uploaded to OneDrive and SCILT Mandarin teachers will advise on appropriate reference materials to be allowed.
- The initial draft will be produced in strict exam conditions in schools and uploaded by teachers back to the relevant OneDrive folder.
- SCILT Mandarin teachers will give feedback on the initial draft using the SQA's writing improvement code and will reupload amended drafts to OneDrive.
- The final draft is completed in exam conditions in school and sent by schools to SQA.

## **Talking Assessments**

These will take place online and will be conducted and recorded by SCILT Mandarin teachers following the same process as online classes. The recordings will be stored securely in a separate OneDrive folder. Access to this is restricted to SCILT Mandarin teachers, Sheena Bell and our external verifier.

## **Prelim**

A prelim paper will be provided for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher by SCILT Mandarin teachers. This can be completed during class time or, if schools are planning a prelim diet for National 5/Higher/Advanced Higher, during this time. This will be discussed between SCILT Mandarin teachers and individual schools.

## Appendix 2 – Suggested Additional Resources for Secondary BGE/N4/N5/H

### For all learners...

All sections provide Mandarin language and science related worksheets and games. The China Mobile Library section includes the panda pack resources.

<https://learning.rzss.org.uk/course/view.php?id=21>

Stroke order website

<http://bishun.strokeorder.info>

Coffee Break Mandarin from RadioLingua has short podcasts and online courses available at beginner level; these will really help with your listening and pronunciation.

<https://coffebreakacademy.com/p/coffee-break-chinese-season-1>

Kahoot! is making its premium service available for free to schools, with a wide range of quizzes and activities for interactive online learning. You can also make your own login which lets you access all games that are available publicly; search for a topic, eg Mandarin sports, to play along. Also available as an app.

<https://kahoot.com/>

Learn a language for free online, or download the app for easier access. There is a huge range of languages available, so it is great for both developing a language that you already know, and for learning some new ones!

<https://www.duolingo.com/>

Lots of flashcard-based activities covering a wide range of topics and grammar points. Available online and as an app.

<https://quizlet.com>

### Beginners (learners who are just starting Mandarin)

BBC Bitesize Mandarin: this takes you to the section for learners who are just beginning with Mandarin.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zkxhfg8>

Chinese Pinyin and tones, once get on the website, please scroll down the page and click the button  
<https://chinesepod.com/tools/pronunciation/section/1>

Memrise Mandarin for beginners; this is free but you do need to sign up for it. Also available as an app.  
<https://www.memrise.com/course/2021373/mandarin-chinese-1/>

### **Intermediate (learners who know the basics and are ready to increase their vocabulary)**

BBC Bitesize Mandarin for learners who have been learning a bit of Mandarin and want to improve  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmx6fg8>

Memrise Mandarin level 2 is good for extending your vocabulary and knowledge of the language in real contexts.

<https://www.memrise.com/courses/english/chinese/>

BBC Mandarin interactive video course covers lots of topics and has extra sections on events.

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/chinese/real\\_chinese/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/chinese/real_chinese/)

### **Advanced**

Scholar – all Senior Phase learners have been issued with a login from their schools. Materials available for National 5 Mandarin.

<https://scholar.hw.ac.uk/>

BBC Bitesize Mandarin – activities available for National 4, National 5. Scroll down the page to choose your level.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zkxhfg8>

SQA past papers:

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm?subject=Mandarin+Simplified&level=NAH>

## Appendix 3 – Learner Guide

Nǐ hǎo!

### Welcome to the Discovering China project!

Thank you for signing up; we hope that you will enjoy learning Mandarin with us.

Here is some information about how the course will work.

- **Microsoft Teams**  is the online platform which we will use to deliver the live lessons.  
All of your course materials will also be posted in **Microsoft Teams**.  
You will be added to your group's Team by your Mandarin teacher.
- You will need to make sure that you have a **Glow**  account. Ask your teacher if you don't have one yet!
- To get into Teams, log in to Glow. Once you're in Glow, open Microsoft Teams. You may need to add it to your launchpad if you haven't been using it so far. You'll see your Mandarin class Team once you do that.
- There are two ways to access:
  - on a **laptop**: Go to the Teams website (or desktop app if you have it) on your laptop, find your class team and, when the teacher starts the meeting, click 'Join'.
  - on the **Teams mobile app**: Go to the team for your class and join as above.
- As well as having live lessons, you will also be able to communicate with your Mandarin teacher through Teams and access a variety of course materials to support your learning.
- To get the most out of the course, you should:
  - ✓ work hard in all your classes,
  - ✓ plan your learning carefully to make sure you have enough time for Mandarin,
  - ✓ practise Chinese character writing regularly,
  - ✓ learn the new words from each lesson as you go along,
  - ✓ complete the homework that is set,
  - ✓ have fun!

xiè xiè  
谢谢  
= thank you

## Appendix 4

### National 4/5/ Higher/Advanced Higher Report Proforma

Discovering China –National 4/5/Higher/Advanced Higher Pupil Report

Pupil Name:		School:	
Current level:		Date:	
Prelim Grade: (National 5/H/AH)		Teacher:	

Current progress:

Next steps:

Any other comments:

