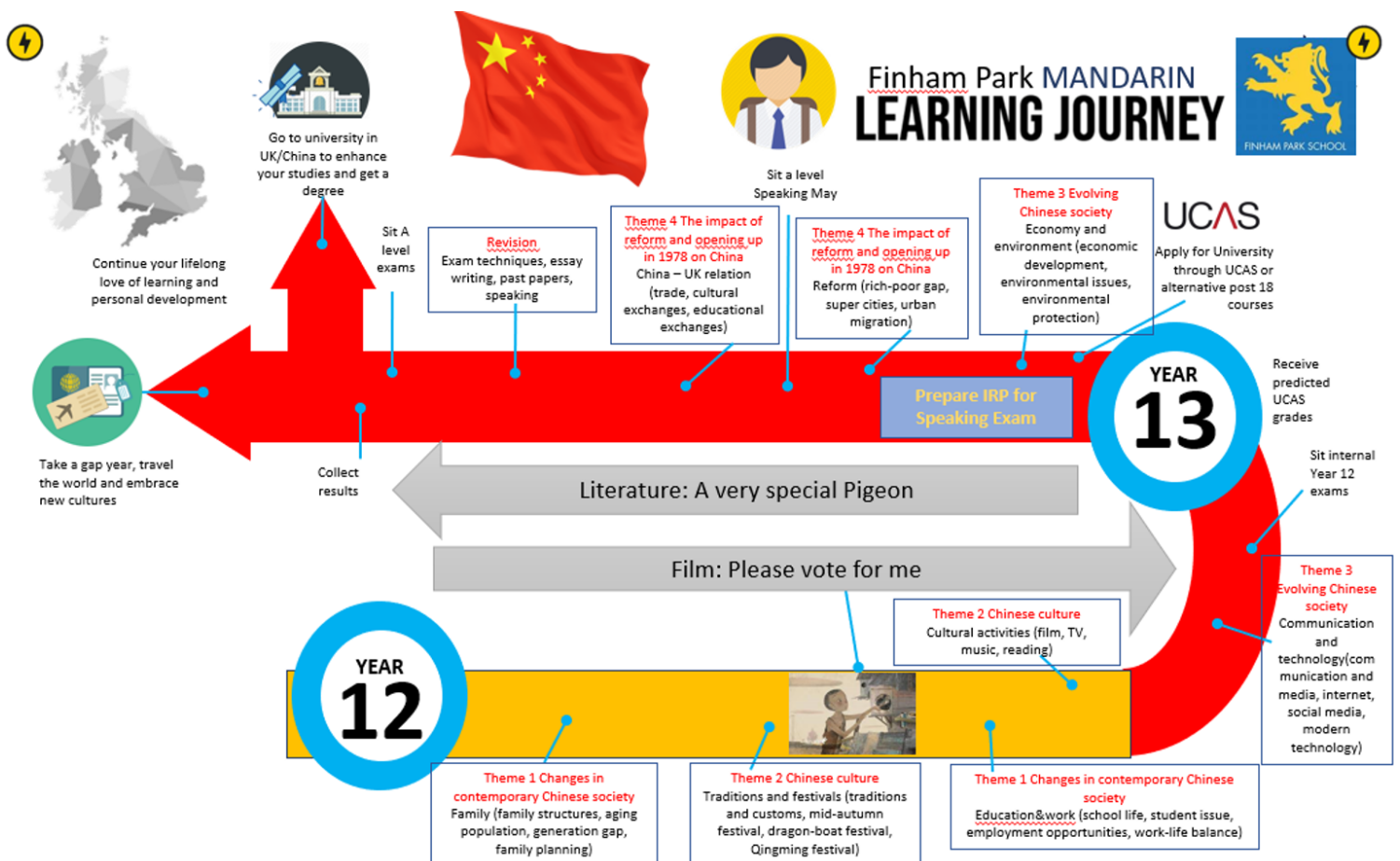


# Step Up to Chinese A Level

## Why study Chinese?

Congratulations on choosing Chinese A Level. Studying Chinese will open doors to exciting opportunities in education, travel, business and international communication. Mandarin Chinese is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world and is increasingly valued by universities and employers.

Learning Chinese will help you develop strong communication skills, cultural awareness and problem-solving abilities. Language students often become more confident communicators and gain a deeper understanding of their own language. Studying Chinese at A Level will also prepare you for the Edexcel Chinese A Level course, where you will explore contemporary Chinese society, culture, films and current issues while continuing to develop your language skills.



## Transition Activities

### How to learn Chinese?

When learning a language, regular exposure is essential. Listening to, reading and using Chinese every day will help you make a smooth transition from GCSE to A Level. Small daily habits can make a big difference, such as changing your phone language settings, listening to Chinese videos, or reading short articles in Chinese.

#### Task 1 – Language skills

Practise Chinese daily using apps such as Duolingo, Quizlet or other vocabulary-learning tools. Review GCSE vocabulary and begin learning new words related to current affairs, society and culture.

#### Task 2 – Listening skills

Watch one episode of 'Happy Chinese' (快乐汉语) on Youtube every day. Keep a vocabulary notebook and record any new words or useful phrases you hear. Try to repeat key expressions aloud to improve your pronunciation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svdnzVJ9KA4&list=PLdT5MUO4gYEdQBMFtkF5g803FJZOss-ip>

#### Task 3 – Cultural awareness and current issues

Follow Chinese-language or cultural content online and make notes about topics that interest you. Research current issues in China and Chinese-speaking communities and keep a short journal of what you learn.

## Task 4 – Watch a film and write a review

Watch the documentary film 'Please Vote for Me' (请投我一票). This film explores democracy, leadership and education through the experiences of Chinese school pupils and provides useful cultural insights that link well to themes studied at A Level.

To write your review, use the following points:

1. Introduction – the main people featured and the setting.
2. Key individuals – describe their personalities and behaviour.
3. Your favourite person – who interested you most and why?
4. Themes – what important ideas or issues are explored?
5. Cultural links – what does the film teach you about Chinese society and culture?
6. Conclusion – what did you think of the film and would you recommend it?

