



November 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Headteacher - Ms N Sheppard

Mandarin Study Day event - BFI Southbank, London - Thursday 12 February 2026

We are planning a trip to the British Film Institute in London to take part in a Mandarin Study Day on Thursday 12 February 2026.

We are pleased to offer your child a place on this trip. There are a limited number of tickets available and only students who have specifically expressed an interest in continuing Mandarin at GCSE level or have excelled recently in Mandarin lessons are being invited on this occasion.

We are also very pleased to be able to offer this trip completely free of charge this year as the cost of ferries, coaches and tickets are all being paid for with the prize money that Carisbrooke College received from winning the national Best School Trip award for our trip to Vietnam.

Chinese traditions and culture is a key theme at GCSE and this workshop is designed to help pupils gain an understanding of both China's history and contemporary culture in an exploration of the nation's cinema. Drawing on various historical and cultural contexts, analysis of Chinese cinema can help to separate myth from history and can assist students in developing an awareness of China as a nation today. Pupils explore these themes through analysis of key scenes in selected Chinese films, such as *The Bucket* (2019) directed by Jia Zhangke and *Please Vote For Me* (2007) directed by Chen Weijun. They will also watch a full length screening of a modern Chinese film in a full-size cinema at the BFI. The workshop is designed to develop a richer understanding of Chinese traditions while also utilising key vocabulary needed for learning Chinese at GCSE level.

Students will be asked to bring a packed lunch/dinner for the day and insurance for students is provided by the school. A further letter with more details including drop-off information and ferry times etc. will be sent once places have been allocated. If your child is entitled to free school meals, a lunch will be provided for them.

If your child would like to attend this trip, please consent to your child attending via arbor by 5 December, this will then secure their place. Further information will follow.

This event has always proved to be both an enjoyable and useful experience for students in the past and we are excited to be able to offer it once again this year.

Yours faithfully

J Briscoe
Teacher of Mandarin
Educational Visits Coordinator