



CREATIVE SECONDARY SCHOOL  
啓思中學

Aug 2017 Edition

## Language Policy

A full statement of the school's Language Policy is available on a shared drive which is part of the school's email system. What follows is a brief outline:

### ***Guiding Principles***

Our language philosophy is informed by the Creative Education Foundation's statement of purpose (Section 1 of this handbook). At the heart of this philosophy is the school's recognition of the importance of the mother tongue as the foundation upon which the acquisition of additional languages depends.

We believe that language proficiency plays an indispensable role in every aspect of life. It facilitates communication and intercultural awareness, and is essential to success in life. The school adopts a holistic language approach, sustaining a rich language environment in which effective use of language is expected in all aspects of teaching and learning in all subjects, not just in language lessons.

To help our students to become bi-literate in English and Chinese, and trilingual in English, Putonghua and Cantonese, and to encourage our students to learn and to use English and Putonghua in their daily life, the school aims to provide enrichment opportunities so that students' individual needs can be addressed.

### ***Policy Framework***

#### **1. Medium of Instruction**

- The school uses English as the medium of teaching for all subjects except for Chinese Language courses
- Chinese Language courses from Form 1 to Form 4 are taught through the medium of Putonghua; in Form 5 & 6 IB Chinese Language & Literature and HKDSE Chinese courses, students are encouraged to use their most fluent spoken Chinese language (which is usually Cantonese) to interact with the course

#### **2. Languages of communication and support for mother tongues**

- English is the language used for official school communications
- Important documents are translated into Chinese for parent's' convenience
- English is promoted as the language that all members of the school community use for social communication.
- Putonghua is promoted as the national language and as an increasingly important language in the city and the Asia Pacific region.

- Cantonese is the mother tongue of most students and staff and is freely spoken on campus for social communication. Cantonese heritage and culture is recognised and celebrated.
- As for students and staff with other home languages, their mother tongues and cultures are recognised and celebrated as adding to the rich diversity of cultures within our school community.

### **3. Curriculum**

- CSS students study English and Chinese, with one of these studied as MYP Language & Literature in Form 1 – 4, and right through to Form 6 through either the Hong Kong or IB Diploma. Students' progress is reviewed regularly to ensure that they are placed in the most appropriate course according to their needs.
- Cantonese and other home languages are valued as resources for enhancing the learning of students. Their use within the classroom is negotiated within an atmosphere of trust and respect between students and teachers. Our rationale is to deepen students' conceptual understanding and to strengthen their ability to communicate in the target language of the lessons concerned.
- The school's co-curricular programme offers students more opportunities to develop their language skills in a wide range of different activities. Some activities, such as drama and Speech Festival, are offered specifically to further develop students' capacity in English, Putonghua and Cantonese.

Spanish ab Initio is offered in the Upper School (IBDP) by an external provider, with the program being overseen by one of the teachers.

## 語言政策

學校語言指引的條款已經放在學校共享的硬盤。共享的硬盤是學校電子郵件系統的一部分。以下是簡單的摘要：

### 理念

我們的教學語言理念，是根據啓思教育基金會的宗旨聲明作為核心。學校會以母語作為教學基礎，並支持其他語言的發展。

### 指引原則

#### 1. 教學

- 除中文科外，學校採用英語教授所有科目
- 中一至中四中文科以普通話授課，中五及中六的IB中文科(語言與文學研究)課程及香港中學文憑，鼓勵學生用他們最熟悉的語言(即廣東話)上課。

#### 2. 溝通語言和母語支援

- 英語是學校官方通訊及溝通的語言
- 為方便家長，重要的文件會被翻譯成中文
- 英文是學校推廣的語言，所有學校成員可以使用此社交語言作交流；
- 普通話我們亦同等重視。
- 粵語(廣東話)作為母語，大多數學生及職員都可以用此語言在校園內自由發言及交談，廣東話的文化價值同時被認同和肯定。
- 至於其他國籍的學生和職員，其母語和文化同樣被認同及肯定，豐富本校的多元文化。

#### 3. 課程

- 中一至中六，所有學生學習英語和中文；中一至中四學生會選其中一種，作為IBMYP語言與文學研究課的課程。學習進度會定期檢討，以確保學生根據自己的能力及需要選取最合適的課程。
- 粵語(廣東話)及其他語言可以支援學生的學習，學生和教師在教室內可酌情使用該語言，建立信任和尊重的討論氣氛。我們相信先要確立學生對概念理解，再逐步加強其以目標語言的溝通能力。
- 學校的課外活動課程為學生提供更多語言學習的機會，在範圍廣泛的活動中發展自己的語言技能。活動如戲劇、朗誦節等，可更進一步學生英語、普通話和粵語的語文能力。

本校開辦由外部提供的西班牙語課程(Spanish ab Initio)給高年級學生(IBDP)，該計劃其中一名教師將負責監督此課程。