



14 March 2017

Dear Parents of Year 9 students who are taking Chinese,

We are pleased to inform you that ESF has jointly developed a Chinese qualification for Year 9 students with Hong Kong Examination and Assessment Authority. Based on the successful trial in previous years, the examination for this qualification will be offered again this year, on Wednesday 19 April. All Year 9 students studying Chinese will sit this exam.

The ESF-HKEAA joint certification reflects our effort to integrate in the Hong Kong community and to obtain recognition of our Chinese courses by local authorities. Ultimately, it is in the best interest of each and every student to maintain and develop their Chinese language to the highest level possible. Endorsed jointly by the local authority HKEAA and ESF, the qualification will have a significant value for our students in future employment and further study.

The exam consists of two parts, one hour of reading test and one hour of writing test. The reading paper will include a short survey of student language profile. Each exam consists of three papers for different categories of students. They are CNN Category (Chinese for Near Native speakers), CSL Category (Chinese as a Second Language) and CAL (Chinese as an Additional Language). Students in each category will be instructed by their Chinese teachers to sit the appropriate papers. Marking will be completed jointly by ESF and HKEAA. Results will be reported as bands of practical language skills that will be useful for employment or further study. Descriptions of different bands of language skills are attached. We expect to issue the certificates before the end of this school year.

Students and teachers should not mock or prepare for this exam as it is meant to be a snapshot of attainment level at a particular exit point. As a practice in general examinations, papers are not returned to students. Teachers may review the questions with students for learning purposes.

Wishing all students good luck in the exam.

With best regards.

David Whalley

Director Education
English Schools Foundation

Xiaoping Wang

Adviser for Chinese
English Schools Foundation