

| What we teach   | What it is   | Why we teach it   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Mandarin</b>   | The official language of China, Taiwan, and Singapore.   | It is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world.   |
| <b>Zhuyin Fuhao</b><br>注音符號<br><b>(BoPoMoFo)</b><br>ㄅ ㄆ ㄇ ㄉ | Traditional phonetic symbols derived from Chinese characters, each corresponding to one of the basic sounds in Mandarin. This system for learning phonetics is used in Taiwan. | Zhuyin builds a strong foundation for young children to learn the correct pronunciations, while avoiding confusion between English phonetics and Pinyin.    |
| <b>Pinyin</b>   | A phonetic system developed in the 1950's, using the Roman alphabet (the ABCs). It is the system used in China.  | Pinyin is the most widely used method for indicating the pronunciation of Chinese characters.   |
| <b>Traditional &amp; Simplified Written Characters</b>      | Traditional written Chinese characters are used in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau, whereas simplified characters are used in China.   | Traditional characters are taught first to build a strong foundation, with simplified introduced later on, allowing for our students to learn both systems. |
| <b>Arts &amp; Culture</b>                                   | Art, calligraphy, Chinese chess, dance and other cultural classes.   | We feel both the language and the rich history and traditions are important. Our students love these fun classes!   |