



# Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Program

The HKIS Dual Language Immersion program is a new pilot program designed to expand the language and cultural learning experience at HKIS to meet the needs of a diverse student population.

While the academic philosophy, standards, and learning experiences are aligned with the main program of the Primary school, the Dual Language Immersion program will deliver academic content in both Chinese and English and develop literacy skills in both languages.

In 2025-26, the Dual Language Immersion program will be implemented across two Reception 1 (R1) classes.



[www.hkis.edu.hk/learning/chinese-studies](http://www.hkis.edu.hk/learning/chinese-studies)

## How will the HKIS Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Program work?

- The Reception 1 academic program will be taught in both Chinese and English by a teaching pair.
- Students will immerse in one language at a time and switch between English and Chinese on an alternating day basis.
- Each day will be led by a homeroom teacher in the target language.
- Co-planning model between two partner teachers to ensure the learning standards and outcomes are met regardless of the language of instruction; class content is not repeated in the other language on the next day. However, concepts and skills will be reinforced in the other language.
- Tools used in literacy classes, such as readers and writers workshops will be implemented in both English and Chinese Language Arts classes.



## The DLI Journey

- The two classes who enter the DLI program in R1 will remain until Grade 5.
- In Middle School, students are placed in the main program according to proficiency level.

## How do students benefit from this program structure?

- When students engage in one language at a time, it reduces the tendency for students to lean on their perceived stronger language.
- Students will receive concentrated, uninterrupted time in one language.
- A full day with the same teacher also allows for consistency throughout the day in the delivery of content, social-emotional learning, and language acquisition.



### How much Chinese does my child get each day vs. the main program?

Students in the DLI program will have seven hours of Chinese every other day. Students in the main program will have 30 minutes of Chinese every other day in R1-R2, and 30 minutes of Chinese every day in Grades 1-5.

## Admissions Process

Beginning the 2025-26 year, HKIS will admit **two** Reception 1 classes to the DLI pilot program. The remaining eight R1 classes will receive the main HKIS program with Chinese Studies taught as a second language.

- All R1 applicants are eligible to be selected for the pilot program.
- Parents must select 'Yes' on the application form in order to be included in the lottery to the pilot program.
- A lottery is conducted among successful candidates for the R1 class.
- Parents who receive an offer for the pilot program must accept the offer if they are selected; if they decide to decline the offer and would like to return to the main program, their application will be placed in the wait pool to be considered for the main program if space allows.

Please contact [admissions@hkis.edu.hk](mailto:admissions@hkis.edu.hk) for questions.