



CALL FOR PAPERS  
(First Call)

## **International Chinese Language Education in a Digital and Global Era: Innovation, Collaboration, and Future Directions**

**数字化与全球化时代的国际中文教育：创新、合作与未来方向**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on  
Teaching and Learning Chinese in Higher Education  
\* The 2026 Annual International Conference  
of the British Chinese Language Teaching Society

9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> July 2026

Organised by the British Chinese Language Teaching Society  
and Co-organised by  
University of Manchester Confucius Institute, Beijing Normal University

The British Chinese Language Teaching Society (BCLTS), Confucius Institute at the University of Manchester, and Beijing Normal University are delighted to announce the 23<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of BCLTS, *International Chinese Language Education in a Digital and Global Era: Innovation, Collaboration, and Future Directions*. This event will take place at the University of Manchester on 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026.

The BCLTS is a UK registered charity for Chinese language teachers and researchers from UK universities and beyond. The University of Manchester Confucius Institute (Manchester CI) was established in 2006 through a partnership between the University of Manchester, Beijing Normal University (BNU), and the Centre for Language Education and Cooperation (CLEC). It is the second Confucius Institute established in the UK. The Institute aims to serve the local community and focuses on four key areas: Chinese language teaching and testing, promotion of contemporary Chinese culture, educational exchanges, and cultural and academic collaboration between China and the UK. Through evening and weekend courses, school partnerships, and teacher training programs, Manchester CI has long been dedicated to Chinese language education and teacher professional development. In addition, its diverse public cultural events foster greater understanding of contemporary China in the UK society. Over the past twenty years, the Institute has trained tens of thousands of learners, established collaborations with over sixty schools, and participated in major city-wide cultural festivals, becoming a leading platform for Chinese

language teaching and cultural exchange in northwest England. Manchester CI was awarded the global “Model Confucius Institute” title in 2016. Its students have won multiple awards in the “Chinese Bridge” Chinese Proficiency Competition both nationally and internationally, and its volunteer teachers have achieved top rankings in UK and European Chinese teaching competitions.

Beijing Normal University, a national key university directly under China’s Ministry of Education, traces its history back to the Normal College of Imperial Capital University in 1902, making it the first modern normal university in China. Upholding the motto “Be a teacher by learning, set an example by conduct,” BNU has cultivated a tradition of rigorous scholarship and social responsibility for over a century. The university excels in teacher education, basic disciplines, educational science, and the humanities and social sciences. It is a Double First-Class A-tier institution, home to multiple national key laboratories, humanities and social science research centres, and high-level research platforms. BNU actively promotes international collaboration, partnering with over 200 universities in more than 50 countries. Its School of International Chinese Language Education consistently ranks among the top nationwide for the Chinese Language program for international students and its Linguistics and Applied Linguistics graduate programmes regularly rank among the top three in national league tables.

We invite submission of abstracts for oral presentations, workshops and posters ([see examples here](#)). Submitted abstracts will be peer reviewed and a selection of papers will be published in the Conference Proceedings. The working languages for this conference are English and Chinese.

We particularly welcome submissions in the following areas:

1. Teaching Chinese in a multilingual, multicultural context
2. Applied linguistics and science of language learning
3. Design and development of teaching and learning materials
4. Technology-enhanced language learning
5. Standards and benchmarks for assessing Chinese learning
6. Second language acquisition
7. Corpus linguistics
8. National language policies
9. Teacher education and development
10. Translation and literature in the L2 Chinese context
11. Teaching Chinese for specific purposes

### **Keynote speakers**

Professor CHEN Dongdong (Seton Hall University)

Professor FENG Liping (Beijing Normal University)

Professor YUAN Boping (University of Cambridge)

Dr Rob Neal (University of Oxford)

## Important dates

- 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026: Deadline for abstract submission
- 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026: Notification of abstract acceptance
- 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026: Early-bird registration closes
- 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026: Conference registration closes
- 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026: Conference
- 30<sup>th</sup> September 2026: Conference full paper submission closes

## Abstract submission

You can submit your abstract online via [this link](#) or scan the QR code below.



Please make sure to include the following information:

- Full name and affiliation of the author(s)
- An abstract, maximum of 260 English words or 400 Chinese characters
- The corresponding author's email address

## Conference fees

	BCLTS members	Non-BCLTS members	Students
Early-Bird	Free	£ 120	£ 50
Normal	Free	£ 150	£ 80

Please note:

- Fees include refreshments for on-site participants
- All welcome for an optional conference dinner (£30)

- Graduate students provide student identity card at registration

For any further inquiries, please email to [conference@bclts.org.uk](mailto:conference@bclts.org.uk). If you wish to submit a full paper, please email it to [conference@bclts.org.uk](mailto:conference@bclts.org.uk). Visit [the BCLTS website](#) for the most up-to-date conference information.

The organising committee looks forward to your participation. Please forward this call for papers to those who may be interested. Thank you very much!

The Committee of the British Chinese Language Teaching Society &  
The Organising Committee of the 23<sup>rd</sup> International Conference  
On Teaching and Learning Chinese in Higher Education