

# Embassy of the People's Republic of China, in association with Joint UK Confucius Institutes

## Panda Partnership – UK Schools Welcome Pandas from China



### Background Note

Two giant pandas are coming from China to live in Edinburgh Zoo before the end of the year. The pandas, known as Tian Tian 甜甜 (Sweetie) and Yang Guang 阳光 (Sunshine), will be the first giant pandas in the UK for 17 years.

To welcome the pandas to the UK and celebrate their arrival, the Chinese Embassy in the UK and associated partners are holding a competition for UK primary and secondary School students.

**Primary:** We are inviting *all* UK primary school students to design and draw a simple poster that welcomes the pandas and celebrates friendship between the UK and China. Participants are encouraged to learn interesting facts about Chinese culture or language and demonstrate this learning in their design.

**Secondary:** Participants are asked to compose and deliver a short speech that will mark the arrival of the pandas and demonstrate enthusiasm for learning Chinese and about China. The speech can be in Mandarin or English, and may draw on learning from across the school curriculum and from personal interest and research. Students may enter either or both categories of the competition.

The first round will run from 31 October - 15 December. For primary school students entering the drawing competition, entries can be uploaded directly onto the website. For secondary school students, each school selects up to three of the best presentations, film them and upload individual clips to the secure programme website: [www.panda-pals.org](http://www.panda-pals.org).

A panel of judges will review all entries and select the best ones for each category. The results will be announced in January 2012.

### How to Enter

Entries to the competition are uploaded and viewed through the online portal [www.panda-pals.org](http://www.panda-pals.org). The panda partnership website is a secure, user-submitted content management system that is moderated by carefully selected moderators. Content is simply uploaded by approved representatives from each participating school. There are two categories for entries.

For more information on how to enter the competition, and about Yang Guang and Tian Tian you can visit the website, [www.panda-pals.org](http://www.panda-pals.org) which will be launched in early November 2011.

*UK Schools Welcome Pandas from China is an initiative hosted by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, and delivered in partnership with Confucius Institutes at SSAT (The Schools Network), London South Bank University (LSBU), University of Edinburgh and Cardiff University, supported by Newland UK.*

