

Report on IOE, UCL-CHILDBASE Education Delegation's Visit and Exchanges in China

From Nov 19th-26th 2018, arranged and coordinated by Mr Jianwei Zhou, Chairman of UK-China Culture & Education Cooperation Promotion Centre Ltd., an education group consisting of UCL Vice Dean (International) Dr Clare Brooks, Academic Head Dr Amanda Ince, Chairman of Childbase Partnership Ltd. Mr Michael Thompson and Area Manager Ms Beverley Sharpe, with the company of Mr Jianwei Zhou, carried out a one-week visit in Beijing and Shanghai, aiming at education cooperation and exchange. During the visit, the delegation had discussions with experts, scholars, and project managers from Beijing Normal University, East China Normal University, Shanghai Academy of Educational Sciences in areas include early years education, teacher education, and home education etc, and tentative cooperation agreement has been reached. The delegation also visited several public, private, and international kindergartens and a primary school and talked with teachers and managers to get a comprehensive and practical understanding of the current situation of early years education, teacher education, and home education in China.



1. Meeting with Beijing Normal University at Room 352, Yingdong Building, BNU



Left to Right: Yang YANG, Haoying LI, Amanda INCE, Jianwei ZHOU, Clare BROOKS, Xiumin HONG, Xinghua WANG, Xiaowei LI, Heyi ZHANG

Nov 19th, 2018, 9:00-11:30, on behalf of IOE, UCL, Clare Brooks and Amanda Ince met and talked with Professor Xudong ZHU, Dean of Faculty of Education BNU, Professor Xiumin HONG, Head of Institute of Early Years Education Studies and others. Based on the current cooperation between UCL and BNU, Clare and Amanda proposed four areas for further cooperation: 1. teachers exchanged based on the current situation of early years education and teacher education; 2. promoting the cooperation between parents and schools and relationship between community and school; 3. developing evaluation system; 4. sharing the achievement and research result with the society through the forum. Professor HONG introduced the subject research on 1-3 year olds they are currently working on and expressed that they will actively working with IOE, adopting an integrated multi-topic approach to combine theory and practice. The two parties also discussed the initial in-depth cooperation direction and topic direction, and both parties will allocate their personnel depending on the topic, and in this way, the two parties can work closely together. Mr ZHOU expressed that he will provide fund and people to fully support the cooperation between UCL and BNU so that the Chinese society can benefit from the cooperation.

2. Visiting Beijing Jiaotong University Affiliated Kindergarten



visiting outdoor area



visiting indoor area/facilities





Discussing with the head teacher and backbone teachers



group photo

Nov 19th 2018, 14:00-16:30, Clare Brooks and Amanda Ince visited Beijing Jiaotong University Affiliated Kindergarten. With the company of the head teacher Ms Cuixiao WANG, the IOE delegation visited the outdoor and indoor area and had a discussion with the backbone teachers. They had a comprehensive discussion on topics including children's daily routine, teacher recruitment, teacher training, teaching materials, family-school communication platform, home

education, education evaluation standard, and education supervision etc. At the same time, the backbone teachers also got an understanding on early years education in the UK.

3. Visiting Yihui Jianyuan Kindergarten, Beijing



Amanda is watching the teaching activity for 5-6 year olds - "Triumphant Band"

Kindergarten teaching is showing Amanda and Haoying LI how children use hand well to water the garden





Amanda is experiencing the kitchen ecology activity for 5-6 year olds - "making dumplings"





Discussion and exchange



group photo with Amanda, Haoying LI, and head teacher and backbone teachers of the kindergarten

Nov 22nd 2018, 9:00-11:30, Amanda visited Beijing Yihui Jiayuan Kindergarten. The head teacher gave a holistic introduction of the kindergarten and invited Amanda to watch the teaching activity for 5-6 year olds - "Triumphant Band", took her for a tour in the setting, and then joined in dumpling making with the children to experience Chinese food culture. Before the visit came to an end, they discussed about early years education in China and the UK.

4. Amanda Visiting a Chinese Family with Two Children



Nov 22 2018, 16:00-17:30, in order to deepen the understanding of early years education and home education in China, Amanda visited the Yang family in BNU.

5. Visiting Primary School Affiliated to China Agricultural University



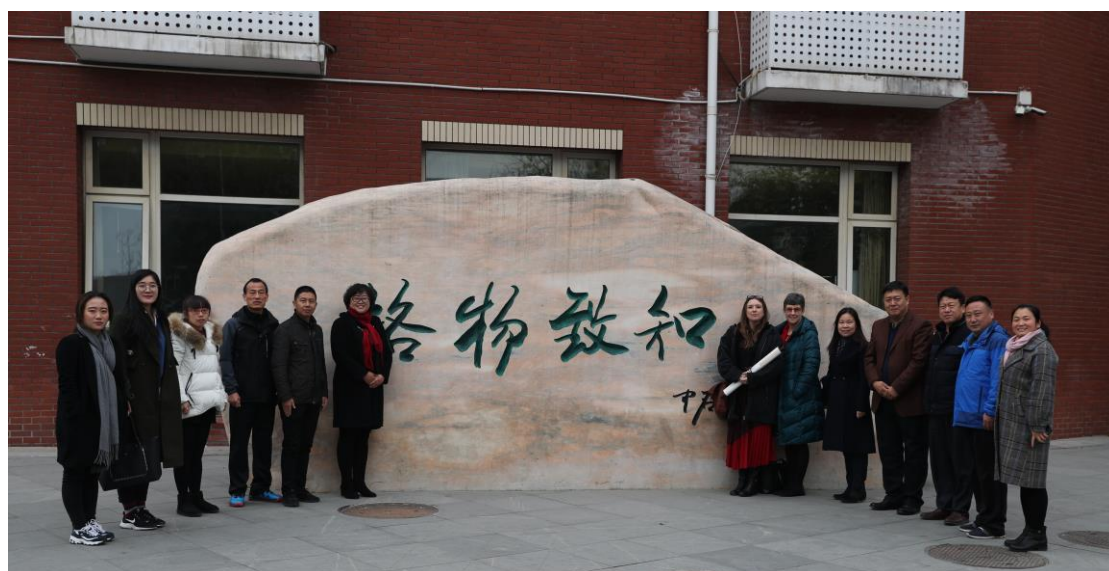
Students of the school giving introduction of the school in English



Admiring students' and teachers' calligraphy work



Discussion with the school headmaster and backbone teachers



exchanging gifts and group photo

Nov 23rd 2018, 9:00-11:30, Clare Brooks and Amanda Ince visited Primary School Affiliated to China Agricultural University, a school with a long and rich history and upholding the teaching philosophy of “ecological education and” and “mutual learning and development” with balanced education principle as the guideline. The school started exploring calligraphy education since 1990s. After 20 years of effort, calligraphy education has become the school’s feature. During the visit, the delegation and the school had a comprehensive discussion on topics including class routine, class transformation, teacher recruitment, student admission, family-school communication platform, teaching materials, student reading etc. The delegation also shared with the school headmaster and teachers the education situation in the UK. Clare and Amanda managed to get an understanding on primary education in China.

6. Visiting Beijing Haidian Modern Art Kindergarten



observing class activity

observing corner design



discussion





Nov 23rd 2018, 14:00-16:30, Clare Brooks and Amanda Ince, representing IOE, visited Beijing Haidian Modern Art Kindergarten. The kindergarten is private-owned, encouraging proactive learning. They adopts the concept of combining teacher and care-giving to allow children with special needs study with other children. They had discussions on topics including teacher recruitment, teacher training, teaching materials, family-school communication platform, and early years education in the UK. At the end of the discussion, backbone teachers of the kindergarten expressed that early years education in China can be improved from two aspects: 1. cultivating children's reading habit; 2. the government published *Guidelines for 3-6 Year Olds Education and Development* is too general, they are hoping to have an early years education evaluation system that is both practical and effective, also fits the situation in China.

7. Mr Zhou Inviting Becky, Dean of IOE and Michael, Chairman of Childbase Partnership Ltd., etc. for Dinner



traditional Chinese folk music performance after dinner



Nov 23rd, 2018, Becky, Dean of IOE, John O'Regan, Clare Brooks, and Amanda Ince were invited to dinner by Mr Zhou, Chairman of Childbase Partnership Michael was also invited. At the same time, Ms Zhengzheng CHI (Ada), CEO of Beanstalk International Education Group, and Ms Xin LI (Lucy), CEO of Beanstalk Kindergarten Education Group.

8. Visiting Beijing Beanstalk International Kindergarten, Solana Campus

visiting BIK outdoor area



visiting indoor area and facilities



Discussion between the delegation and the founder and Chairman of BIBS, Ms Hua SHI

In the morning of Nov 24th, 2018, the delegation visited BIK Solana campus. Ms SHI shared her 20 years of experience establishing international school with the delegation, and she looks forward to building partnership with Childbase education group.

9. Meeting with Shanghai Teacher Training Centre



Staff in Shanghai Teacher Training Center (from left to right): Hua Xia (Chief of International Cooperation Department), Hu Daoming, Zhou Zengwei, Xu Lingping (Interpreter, Director of Teacher Professional Development Department), Dr. Xuan Xiaowei (From International Cooperation Department)

On the morning of November 25th, 2018, Clare Brooks and Amanda Ince represented the

Education Exchange Delegation of the IOE, UCL and Mr. Thompson, Chairman of the Childbase Partnership Ltd in the UK had a meeting with Ms. Zhou Zengwei, Director of the Shanghai Teacher Training Center, Hu Daoming (Deputy Director) and Huaxia, Chief of International Cooperation Department and other related person. At the meeting, Director Zhou Zengwei introduced the general situation of the Shanghai Teacher Training Center and analyzed and interpreted the education condition in Shanghai, especially the source of teachers, the teacher training system and the education policy in Shanghai Area. And then Mr. Zhou introduced the members of the delegation to the staff of the Teacher Training Center, as well as the Institute of Education, UCL, which ranks first in the world in education, and the top early years education Group in the UK --CHILDBASE. Both sides discussed and exchanged several aspects about teacher training and early years education, which hoping to create an authoritative teacher training model by combining theory and practice.

10. Shanghai Yang Pu PoPoDoo Bilingual Kindergarten





On the afternoon of November 25th, 2018, Clare Brooks and Amanda Ince represented the Education Exchange Delegation of the IOE, UCL and Mr. Thompson, Chairman of the Childbase

Partnership Ltd in the UK visited Shanghai Yang Pu PoPoDoo Bilingual Kindergarten. This kindergarten adheres to the principle of “Improving the education of all children with love and childishness, implementing comprehensive development education, and letting children be good at English on this basis” and sticks to the teaching method of “learning through games and using in life”, which has absorbed a large number of high quality teachers with rich teaching experience and academic qualifications. Based on children's development and pay equal attention to child care and child education, the kindergarten has achieved good educational results over the years.

11. Meeting with Shanghai Academy of Educational Sciences





From left to right: Pan Qiong, Xu Shiqiang, Michael Thompson, Beverley Sharpe, Mr Zhou, Amanda Ince, Clare Brooks, Sang Biao, Lu Jing, Shen lixia, Du Ying, Song Tianmin

On the morning of November 26th, 2018, Clare Brooks and Amanda Ince represented the Education Exchange Delegation of the IOE, UCL and Mr. Thompson, Chairman of the Childbase Partnership Ltd in the UK had a meeting with Professor Sang Biao, president of Shanghai Academy of Educational Sciences, and some other relevant people in charge of Shanghai Academy of Educational Sciences. In the meeting, Ms. Lu Jing, the vice president of Shanghai Academy of Educational Sciences, gave a detailed introduction to the basic situation of SAES and the current state of education in Shanghai. Both sides communicated and exchanged the potential collaborative research areas such as studies in preschool educational, standards of preschool education resource allocation and quality monitoring, home education, preschool curriculum development, standards of teacher team building, standards of school management, basic education quality monitoring and so on, and put forward preliminary cooperation intentions.

12. Visiting the Experimental primary school affiliated to Shanghai Academy of Educational Sciences



The delegation visited special course-- tie-dyed



The delegation exchanged views with Ms. Chen Jing, head teacher of the school, and backbone teachers

After the meeting with Shanghai Academy of Educational Sciences, the delegation visited the experimental primary school of Shanghai Academy of Sciences. Members of the delegation appreciated students' tie-dyed art works and discussed the home education and mathematics education in Shanghai. The head teacher, Chen Jing, introduced the main teaching situation of the school to delegation from the aspects of mutual learning between students, teacher-student interaction, home-school linkage and so on.

13. East China Normal University





Left to right: Michael Thompson, Beverley Sharpe, Amanda Ince, Jianwei ZHOU, Clare Brooks, Fuyi YANG, Minghong ZHANG,

Yue QIU, Jianfeng FENG

26th Nov, 2018, 13:00-14:30, the delegation met with Mr Fuyin YANG, professor of faculty of education, Director and Vice Dean of International Affairs Department of East China Normal University, and Mr Jianfeng FENG, Deputy Head of Basic Education Group of East China Normal University . In the meeting, Mr Jianwei ZHOU, Director of the Steering and Advisory Committee of

IOE Centre for Research and Practice in Early Years Teaching and Teacher Education at UCL, emphasized cooperation in both theoretical and practical level. From a theoretical lever, the cooperation can be of the three following aspects: 1. child education, home education and teacher training; 2. Teaching management in kindergartens, home-school interactive platform, and learning materials; 3. joint research project and personnel exchange between professors of UCL and ECNU. In practical level: with the leading top early years education group Childbase, to conduct early years teacher training and establish teaching practical base. Mr YANG gave detailed introduction of the faculty of education, early years education system, and the Basic Education Group. He also expressed the intention to establish partnership with IOE. At the end of the meeting, Mr FENG proposed that: 1 he hopes to set up a mutual student exchange cooperation programme; 2. the new 8000 square metre kindergarten in west suburbs of Shanghai, established by ECNY Basic Education Group, can be used as a practice and research base for both UCL and ECNU, and to work with Childbase to apply its advanced practical experience in early years education, especially for children aged 0-3, to early years education practice in Shanghai. Both parties look forward to conduct an in-depth and substantive cooperation in the near future.

14. Shanghai Normal University





26th Nov 2018, 15:00-16:30, the delegation met with the head of International Exchange Department of Shanghai Normal University. The two parties had discussions on early years teacher educator shortage and early years teacher training.

After a whole week of visits to kindergartens, primary school, normal universities and official educational institutes in Beijing and Shanghai and education exchange and cooperation, the delegation has gained a basic understanding on early years education, teacher education, and family education in Beijing and Shanghai. IOE at UCL and Childbase have initially established the intention to jointly conduct subject research and practice with Beijing Normal University, East China Normal University and other normal universities in China in the fields of year years education, teacher education, home education, and early years reading, learning, and teaching materials. Further, initial cooperation proposals have be agreed between IOE and Childbase and Shanghai Academy of Educational Sciences and Shanghai Teacher Training Centre. They each has recommended contact person and they are all very looking forward to further communication on specific working areas.