



***'i – Journey'* Paid Non-local Study Leave Scheme for Secondary School Teachers 2019/20**  
**Programme A(9) \* – Self-directed Learning**  
**Late April – Mid-June 2020**  
**Turku, Finland**

**Programme Brief**

**Background**

The Finnish education system has been frequently regarded as one of the most successful models in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Its National Core Curriculum introduced in 2014 focuses on development of seven transversal competence areas. In particular, the competence “Thinking and learning to learn” stresses the importance of Self-directed Learning (SDL). To enable students to learn independently and through interaction with others, students are guided to develop metacognitive skills and build self-confidence in their learning capabilities.

This Turku-based study programme is expected to provide participants with knowledge of relevant theories, research and latest policies and practices in Finland, and, more importantly, offer insights into how the effective implementation of SDL can be adapted in the Hong Kong context. In particular, participants will learn how to assess students’ readiness for SDL learning, adjust their instructional designs and integrate technology into their pedagogical practices.

**Aim**

The Programme aims to enable participants to:

- (a) acquire knowledge of the Finnish education system and its key features, with a special focus on the promotion of SDL;
- (b) enhance professional capacity in designing a learner-centred curriculum that develops students’ SDL capabilities;
- (c) build an extensive repertoire of pedagogical strategies and develop expertise on the use of assessment to promote SDL;
- (d) integrate structured learning and attachment experience to become reflective practitioners; and
- (e) develop teacher leadership through sharing learning outcomes in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and disseminating good practices

**Quota**

The quota for the Programme (2019/20) is **20**.

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\* Programmes A(1) – A(6) were announced via EDBCM No. 134/2017, No.199/2017, No.179/2018 and No.190/2018 and completed in the 2017/18 s.y. and 2018/19 s.y. Relevant details can be retrieved from EDB website: (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/i-Journey>).

**Faculty of Education, University of Turku**

The Programme will be delivered by the Faculty of Education, University of Turku in conjunction with expert staff from Teacher Training Schools of the University. Being the second largest university in Finland in terms of student enrollment, University of Turku, together with three other renowned Finnish universities, has established the Finland University to combine the breadth of experience and expertise in international cooperation and to provide high-quality research-based education and training for educators at different career stages.

**Programme Content (Late April – Mid-June 2020)**

<b>Phase One</b> (2019/20 s.y.)	<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Pre-trip Preparation (Hong Kong)</b>		
	<b>Weeks</b> <b>2 – 6</b>	<b>Overseas Experience (Turku, Finland)</b>		
		<b>Structured Courses,</b> for example:	<b>School Attachment</b>	<b>Other Learning Activities,</b> for example:
	<b>Weeks</b> <b>7 – 8</b>	<b>Post-trip Consolidation (Hong Kong)</b>		
<b>Phase Two</b> (2020/21 s.y.)	<b>Implementation of Finalised Proposal</b>			



(Image source: <http://www.utu.fi/en/Pages/home.aspx>)