

**Mainland Study Tour for Newly-joined Teachers  
(for Non-Chinese Speaking Teachers)  
Learning Report**

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### **Acquisition**

During our Study Tour, we gained valuable insights into the current landscape of Mainland Chinese education, exploring its history, evolution, and the focal points of policymakers aimed at revitalizing the education system. Our first lecture taught us about how Chinese policymakers are focusing more on whole-person education, a refreshing shift that underscores the importance of nurturing students beyond mere academic achievement. This stands in stark contrast to our general perception of Mainland Chinese education, which is often characterized by its high-stakes environment, particularly the relentless preparation for the Gaokao exams. This experience reminded us of the Hong Kong Education Bureau's (HKEDB) focus on the 4Rs—rest, relaxation, relationships, and resilience—reinforcing the critical role teachers play in fostering students' holistic development.

Our site visit to Seewo provided a firsthand look at innovative educational technologies currently shaping the sector. We were particularly impressed by Easinote5, a tool that integrates features such as an AR camera and pre-made educational games. Witnessing China's advancements in EdTech was eye-opening and inspired our team to adopt a more future-oriented, technology-driven perspective. The experience highlighted the potential of these tools to enhance learning experiences, encouraging us to explore similar innovations in our own educational contexts.

### **Inspiration**

The knowledge we acquired during the tour inspired us to think creatively about our teaching practices. One standout moment was the lesson observation of a Secondary 2 class discussing the Greeks and the Trojan Horse. We were captivated by the teacher's seamless integration of essential English language skills—speaking, listening, reading, vocabulary acquisition, and writing. This holistic approach encouraged active participation. The final activity demonstrated contextualized learning, where students presented mind maps of ancient Chinese tales and explained the plot in English. This

method not only promotes cultural heritage but also personalizes the learning experience, providing us with valuable insights into how we can incorporate similar strategies into our classrooms in Hong Kong.

Additionally, the “Application of Artificial Intelligence in Education” lecture introduced us to generative AI tools such as Sono, a text-to-music app, and Sora, a text-to-video app, presenting exciting opportunities to create engaging and meaningful content that enhances student engagement and learning outcomes. Our group unanimously agreed on the importance of integrating these tools into our English lessons, recognizing their potential to enrich the educational experience. This lecture was particularly inspiring and impactful, fueling our creativity and enthusiasm for technology integration in our educational practices. The introduction to various AI tools and their applications opened our eyes to the possibilities of personalized education, and discussions around chatbots and ethical considerations sparked innovative ideas about providing immediate support to students, making learning more interactive and engaging.

### **Impact**

The insights we gained from this tour have already begun to influence our teaching approaches. Armed with actionable strategies for implementing AI tools, we are excited about streamlining grading processes and analyzing student data to tailor instruction effectively. The potential for improving student engagement and learning outcomes is significant, and we are eager to harness these technologies to create a more inclusive and responsive learning environment.

Moreover, our discussions around ethical considerations and the necessity for ongoing training in AI integration have reinforced our commitment to responsible and effective use of technology in education. We recognize that as we embrace these innovations, we must also prioritize the ethical implications and ensure that our practices align with the best interests of our students.

In conclusion, this Study Tour has been a transformative experience for our team, equipping us with insights that will undoubtedly shape our future teaching practices. By blending the lessons learned about the educational landscape in Mainland China with our commitment to innovative technologies, we are poised to enhance our students' learning experiences and results.