



***'i – Journey'* Paid Non-local Study Leave Scheme for Secondary School Teachers 2017/18**
Programme A(2) – Catering for Students with Special Educational Needs (SEN)

Mid-April – Mid-June 2018 (Tentative)

Melbourne, Australia

Programme Brief

Background

Australia has developed a comprehensive and inclusive strategy to provide support for students with SEN. Victoria has recently implemented the “Special Needs Plan” as part of the Victorian Government’s vision to promote inclusive practices in schools so that they can better support all children and young people, including those with disabilities and additional needs.¹

This Melbourne-based study programme is expected to provide participants with knowledge of relevant theories, research and latest policies and practices in Australia, and, more importantly, offer insight into how the effective measures can be adapted in the Hong Kong context.

Aim

The Programme aims to enable participants to

- (a) acquire knowledge about the latest policies and effective measures in delivering special and inclusive education in Australia;
- (b) learn about providing system support and supplemental instruction for students with SEN in Australian schools, which could shed light on Hong Kong’s 3-Tier Support Model in catering for students with SEN;
- (c) gather knowledge and strategies for the evidence-based practices deployed by the effective Australian schools in supporting students with SEN, especially high-incidence disabilities such as Dyslexia, Attention Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder (AD/HD), Autism Spectrum Disorders, and Speech and Language Impairment;
- (d) learn about successful education transition programmes (early childhood to primary, primary to secondary, secondary to post-school) for students with SEN in Australia;
- (e) integrate knowledge and reflect on the strategies acquired from structured learning and school attachment to engage in a school-based initiative/research; and
- (f) develop teacher leadership through sharing learning outcome in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and disseminating good practices, with a view to inspiring paradigm shifts in inclusive education.

Quota

The quota for the Programme (2017/18) is **20**.

¹ For details of the “Special Needs Plan”: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/specialneeds.aspx>

School of Education, Deakin University

Administered by EDB, the Programme will be conducted by the School of Education (SoE), Deakin University in conjunction with academic staff from Research for Educational Impact (REDI) – Deakin University’s Strategic Research Centre in Education. Deakin University SoE is an international leader offering in-service professional development programmes for educators and serves as one of the Australian leaders in specialist inclusive education. The University is ranked 5th in Australia in the subject of education in the 2017 QS ranking.

Programme Content (Mid-April – Mid-June 2018) [Tentative]

Week 1	Pre-trip (Hong Kong)	
Overseas Experience (Melbourne, Australia)		
Week 2	Structured Courses (delivered at Burwood campus) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome & Orientation* Policy and Practice of Specialist & Inclusive Education Inclusive Curriculum & Assessment Design Behavioral Programmes that Support Inclusive Learning Developing Individual Learning Plans, etc. 	Other Learning Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visits to <u>two</u> Inclusive Education Centres Practitioner research workshops Individual consultation with mentors
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning for Inclusion of Intellectual/Physical/Sensory/ Speech Impairment/ Autism Spectrum Disorder/ Dyslexia, etc. 	
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning for Inclusive of Mental Health: 3-Tier Support Model Supporting Transition: From Schooling to Post-school Options Planning for Inclusion of AD/HD, etc. 	
Weeks 5-7	School Attachment (in groups of 5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deakin Academy inclusive primary school Deakin Academy inclusive secondary school Specialist school 	
Week 8 - 9	Post-trip (Hong Kong)	

* To comply with Australian regulations, participants will be required to obtain a Working with Children Check prior to voluntary or work-related activities that involve contact with children under the age of 18. Programme staff will assist participants with the application. Participants may need to pay for any fees incurred for obtaining the Check.



Burwood Campus, Deakin University

(Image source: http://www.deakin.edu.au/_data/assets/image/0011/615494/3605_Burwood-Campus-Gallery.jpg)