VCE at the Zhengzhou Foreign Language School provided by
The Peninsula School

Introduction

The Peninsula School supports the Zhengzhou Foreign Language School to teach the Victorian Certificate of Education. This Program began in September 2013. We operate similar programs in other cities in China including Shanghai and Nanjing and expect to open in Kuala Lumpur in 2014.

Zhengzhou

Zhengzhou is the capital of Henan Province, the province with the largest population in China. For centuries this region has been critical to the history of China and can been seen as the heartland of China. The city is an intense commercial, cultural and educational centre serving a largely agricultural economy.

It is a thriving and modern city with a full range of amenities. It is served by local and international airlines and fast trains to Beijing. A prefecture-level city, it also serves as the political, economic, technological, and educational centre of the province, as well as a major transportation hub for Central China. The city lays on the southern bank of the Yellow River, and is one of the Eight Great Ancient Capitals of China.

Zhengzhou Foreign Language School

Located in the Zhengzhou High-tech Development Zone, Zhengzhou Foreign Language School is a key senior middle school under the direct guidance of the Zhengzhou Education Bureau, which serves students from the 7th grade right through to the 12th grade. At present, Zhengzhou Foreign Language School has three independent campuses, covering an area of 49.4 acres, with over 500 staff members and 7000 students. These campuses are independent both in finance and in personnel; however, they are both under the principal's leadership so that it maintains a consistent teaching philosophy.

Accredited by The Department of Education of the P.R.C., it belongs to the National Teaching Research Association, and is one of the 13 top foreign language schools across China which is entitled to directly send the top 20% of its graduates to famous universities such as Tsinghua University, Beijing University, and Beijing Foreign Language University.

Every effort is made to accept the best balance of students to optimize the learning environment. As a foreign language school, in our English class, we promise that all students can receive a qualified foreign language education. We not only provide classes on grammar, but also oral English classes that are taught by native English speakers. It offers more opportunities for communication and participation. Our school guarantees that our education will be the highest quality from the courses we offer. We provide qualified teaching staff, small-class sizes, original overseas teaching materials and the employment of teaching methods, modern facilities, and much more.

Zhengzhou Foreign Language School highly values its talented, finest experienced teachers; our staff is recognized for their hard-work, intelligence, good will, and passion for education; they devote their time and effort to quality teaching. We are convinced that meaningful learning is enhanced through active involvement in the learning process; we believe that a productive and genuine atmosphere is essential for learning and development of independence, collaboration, and critical thinking. Our comprehensive, developmental, and proactive guidance program addresses the personal, social, emotional, and academic needs of our students. Moreover, a focus on the character traits of respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring, and citizenship emphasizes a positive and productive environment.
During the last 23 years, our school has greatly transformed. Our excellent academic achievements and bright school graduates have enhanced our good reputation. The academic results of our school top the highest standards in the province. We have maintained the highest percentage of the junior middle school graduates accepted by the senior high schools in Zhengzhou over the past 19 consecutive years. More than 90% of our senior high school students are admitted to colleges and universities across the country.

Zhengzhou Foreign Language School is distinguished for its excellence in education and attracts the best students from around Henan Province. It is always the first choice for students who seek success in an academic field. We are committed to student's individual growth. Our students demonstrate good personal management by showing competence through mastering skills, learning strategies, confidence, initiative, and self-reliance. Simply put, Zhengzhou Foreign Language School students spend an extraordinary amount of time pushing themselves to be the best they can be. Certainly this is true in the classrooms, where students, challenged by their teachers, listen to the questions asked and comments made by their peers.

Zhengzhou Foreign Language School is a safe and encouraging place for students to live and learn. The idea that each individual brings a unique and valuable dimension to our school drives the relationships in our community. We are seeking to meet the highest standards in performance, athletic competition, artistic expression, leadership activity and intellectual exploration. Zhengzhou Foreign Language School students participate in numerous experiences that ultimately affirm their aptitudes, values and abilities. Acutely aware that every encounter affects a young person's development, our staff faculty consciously surrounds students with opportunities for intellectual and personal growth, not only during class, but also during their extracurricular activities and in their social lives.

The VCE

The Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) is a granted after 2 years of successful study – years 11 and 12. Assessment for year 11 subjects is entirely internal. External examinations are undertaken in year 12. Assessment at year 12 comprises internal coursework assessment in addition to the examinations. When taking into account the statistical moderation that is applied to raw scores, it is true to say that more weight is given to the examinations. The statistical moderation yields a Tertiary Entry Score that determines access to university courses.

The Program operates under licence from the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority, which will provide the examinations offshore for the Chinese students.

Immigration law

Students who complete the VCE in China would be expected to undertake Tertiary studies at a Chinese university, or an Australian university operating in China or in Australia.

It is important to note that Australian immigration law is constantly changing and that to obtain a visa to study in Australia you must meet financial, age, health and character criteria, in addition to academic ones. Obtaining the VCE will not, of itself, guarantee an Australian visa. It ought to provide a sound basis for continuing study through the medium of the English language.

Australian teacher of the VCE at ZFLS

Australian teachers recruited for the Zhengzhou School by The Peninsula School will teach the VCE and the preparatory Year 10 course which leads to it. The subjects taught are:

Year 10:   ESL

Year 11:   ESL, Chinese, Physics and, Mathematical Methods

Year 12:   ESL, Physics, Further Maths, Mathematical Methods, Chinese.

Conditions of Work
Teachers will be employed in accordance with a negotiable contract (one year minimum)

A nominated teacher at The Peninsula School will formally support each Australian teacher in China. The Peninsula School will provide curriculum materials on their website to support the teaching of the VCE subjects listed above and send staff to China to provide professional support.

Skills and Attributes Required for the Position

The applicant should have a warm flexible and open personality and a genuine interest in young people and excellent cross cultural communication skills.

The applicant is required to satisfy the following selection criteria:

- At least 5 years VCE teaching experience or its equivalent, most of that being in the discipline within which you are employed to teach;
- Classroom performance – evidence provided by referees;
- Administrative skills – evidence provided by referees;
- Communication skills and collegial support – evidence provided by referees;
- Police check;
- Good health – applicants must be able to access appropriate health / travel insurance;
- Willingness to undergo an orientation program and professional development;
- Suitability for overseas service – to be determined by interview. Factors that may be considered are listed below:
  - Previous overseas experience;
  - ESL training and experience;
  - Exposure to NESB (Non English Speaking Background) students in Australia;
  - Family commitments;
  - Interest and knowledge of the Chinese culture;
  - Independence and resilience;
  - Cross cultural communication skills.

Qualifications

A Bachelors Degree and a Diploma of Education as a minimum

VIT Registration or capacity to receive this upon application