



KIANGSU - CHEKIANG COLLEGE
INTERNATIONAL SECTION
20 Braemar Hill Road, North Point, HK
Tel.: 2570 1281 Fax: 2570 3281 Email: inter2@kcs.edu.hk



Submission for the Panel meeting on Education to discuss 'Provision of International School Places'

From Kiangsu & Chekiang Primary School, International Section and Kiangsu-Chekiang College, International Section
Mrs. Jane Daniel, Head Teacher, representing the schools.

Our School: Founded in 1953 as the original Mandarin Medium Primary School in Hong Kong, the Primary School went on to start the International Section in 1993, due to the demand from parents who were sending their children to the Mandarin School and who wanted their children to learn both English and Mandarin. I took over as Head Teacher in September 1999, when the student numbers stood at 130. We were based at the Ching Wah Street, North Point, campus, and by 2002 we had started our Secondary Section, moved Primary 3-6 classes and began our first Form 1 on the campus at Braemar Hill Road. Since then our numbers have grown so much, and waiting lists have become the norm, particularly in our Primary International Section. Currently we have registered 616 Kindergarten (KG) – Primary 6 Students, and more than 270 students in our Secondary International Section. We have been able to grow from a one form entry school in 1999 to a 3 form entry school in Primary, and we now have at least 2 forms in each year in Secondary, from Year 7 – Year 11, and one form for Years 12 and 13. Currently it looks as though we will have a combined total of just under 1000 students in September 2012. Our capacity is at present 618 in our Primary International Section, this will increase to 644 in September with the addition of an extra Primary 6 class.

Originally we found that our students came to us essentially to improve their English skills, before many of them moved on, from our Kindergarten classes, to other prestigious International Schools, and to ESF Schools from Primary 1-Primary 6, as and when vacancies occurred in those schools. However, as we offer a 'through-train' system, our places in each year group are growing increasingly limited as more and more of our students are now opting to stay with us from KG to Year 13.

Our waiting lists have grown consistently over the past few years, and as you can see from the current attached waiting list, are long, particularly for Primary 1 and 2 classes, where at present we shall have very few places to offer. Lack of space means that we shall be at capacity in September 2012, and at present cannot expand to 4 form entry.

This year we will be unable to offer places to many on our Primary 1 and 2 waiting lists, and we are currently asking our present student population whether they wish to keep their place with us for the next Academic Year. Once we are clear how many students might be moving on from our school, we shall be interviewing new students to fill those places.

Our new student intake has reflected the general dissatisfaction that many local families have with the local school system. When I ask prospective local parents why they want to move their child from the local system into our school system, the usual answers are,

- “ Too much homework from his present school, which means our child has little time for other extra-curricular activities”
- “He is learning in Cantonese, whereas I want him to be learning in English which will give him a better chance of winning a place at a prestigious overseas university”
- “I want him to continue his education overseas in the future”
- “Your school offers Mandarin as a strong element, and therefore we want our own children to be bi-lingual in two languages that are already important globally”.
- “Small class size “
- “school fees offer the best value for money and are more affordable”.

Many parents have also experienced an overseas education themselves, and many are returnees since 1997, who were brought up in UK, Canada, US, Australia, and want to live in Hong Kong, but bring their children up in a ‘international school environment’. We are also popular with many local Eurasian families, who want their children to have the best of both worlds, English and Mandarin education, plus we have over the past few years built up a solid reputation, with high quality teaching and support staff.

Both international and local systems should be seen as equally important to the future development of Hong Kong as an International Business City, and we would like to see our Government plan for the future with this in mind.

Jane Daniel,
Head Teacher, International Section.

2.2.2012

Waiting List for Kiangsu & Chekiang Primary School, Internation Section

Class	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
KG	172	269	100	0
R	92	3	0	0
P1	200	15	7	0
P2	143	5	0	1
P3	68	1	0	0
P4	20	0	0	0
P5	6	0	0	0
P6	2	0	0	0
Total	703	293	107	1

Breakdown of waiting lists

2012-2013	P1	P2
sibling	7	13
overseas	21	34
Total	28	47