

VCE at Taixing No. 1 Senior High School provided by Peninsula Grammar

Introduction

Peninsula Grammar has begun to support Taixing No. 1 Senior High School to teach the Victorian Certificate of Education. Peninsula has been operating similar programs in other cities in China for 15 years with outstanding academic outcomes. Such Programs operate under licence to the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority known as VCAA.

Taixing

Taixing is located in one of the most prosperous zones of China – the region surrounding the Yangtze River between Shanghai and Nanjing. It is within 1-2 hours travel by public transport from China's large world class cities of Shanghai, Suzhou and Nanjing. This same region is traditionally renowned for valuing education and producing excellent scholars and in recent years the appeal of an international education has grown exponentially. Taixing has the advantage of being a compact city of around 1.5 million inhabitants with a local government focussed on developing high-tech industries for the international market.

Taixing No.1 Senior High School

Below is some of the Taixing School's official publicity:

Established in 1993, Taixing No. 1 Senior High School was granted key school status in Jiangsu Province in 2000 and four-star school status in Jiangsu Province in 2006. Covering an area of 75905 m² and equipped with advanced science laboratories, a first-class library with over 135000 books and over 60 multi-media classrooms, the School provides a solid basis for modern education.

The School has 277 fully qualified teaching staff and 2400 students in more than 50 classes. Our students are known for their polite behaviour, high energy and eagerness to practice new ideas.

The School spirit is captured by our motto "do your best and achieve the best you can". We focus on laying the foundations for our students' life-long development and creating platforms for our teachers' continuous professional growth.

The quality of education has received wide acclaim from the community with the quality of teaching improving steadily and the number of students admitted to key universities increasing year by year. Our accolades include: Advanced School for Quality Education of Jiangsu Province, Advanced School for Science and Technology of Jiangsu Province, Green School of Jiangsu Province, Safe Campus of Jiangsu Province, Excellent Parents' School of Jiangsu Province, Advanced Collective of Educational Work of Jiangsu Province. Led by Principal Huang Yongjian, all the teachers and students do their best to make continuous progress towards a bright future.

ARC

Taixing No. 1 Senior High School has engaged an Australian Registered Training Organisation – ARC – as a partner in management of the project. ARC will have a key role - using Australia and China based bi-lingual staff - to support expatriate teachers with respect to their living and working conditions. ARC will have no role in the academic management of the project which is the domain of Peninsula Grammar.

The VCE

The Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) is 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 Rank (ATAR) 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. Taixing No. 1 Senior High School plans to recruit 1-2 classes of 25 students in their initial intake for the VCE Program.

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, and 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 (or expatriate native speaker of English) teacher recruited to the VCE at Taixing School

The expatriate English teacher recruited for the Taixing School will initially teach the VCE preparatory Year 10 English course. The projected future additional subjects to be taught are:

- Year 11: EAL, Chinese, Physics, and Mathematical Methods.
- Year 12: EAL, Physics, Further Mathematics, Mathematical Methods, Specialist Mathematics and Chinese First Language.

Conditions of Work

Teachers will be employed in accordance with a contract of negotiable length. (See below for details.) A nominated teacher at Peninsula Grammar will formally support each VCE teacher in China. Peninsula Grammar will provide curriculum materials on their intranet to support the teaching of the VCE subjects listed above and send staff to China to provide professional support. **The employer will be the Taixing School and not Peninsula Grammar.**

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;
- Excellent 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 Bachelor's Degree and a Diploma of Education as a minimum.
VIT Registration or capacity to receive this upon application.

Salary Package

- 25000 RMB/month
- Paid holiday leave
- One return airfare
- Chinese insurance company health insurance
- Visa related expenses to be reimbursed
- Free apartment at School with the future possibility of a subsidy to live in private accommodation
- Free meals when at School
- Use of laptop computer provided by School
- Access to internet at school and in accommodation

Reporting to

You would be directed in your training, orientation and academic work by a team of staff from Peninsula Grammar. Your daily arrangements at school will be managed by the International Department of the Taixing School.

Holiday Periods

July and August are the months of summer holidays. Actual start and finish dates vary from year to year with individual schools having some discretion in nominating such dates. There are shorter national holidays in May and October.

Dates for initial contract

Start date: 1 September 2018

End date for initial and renewable contract: 30 November 2019

Applications to include:

1. Brief cover letter
2. Curriculum Vitae

Contact person in Australia:

Ms Yolanda Hao

International Operations

Peninsula Grammar

20 Wooralla Drive

Mt Eliza Vic 3930

Australia

yhao@peninsulagrammar.vic.edu.au