

On-the-job Training for International English Teachers Helps to Enhance Students' Learning Effectiveness

(Courtesy of Wen-Ni Li at the Division of Junior High, Elementary School and Preschool Education)



To help elementary and junior high schools in remote areas to improve their quality of English education, the Ministry of Education has recruited international English teachers and arranged professional training, including pre-service and on-the-job training every year to help international teachers understand Taiwan's English education policy so as to accelerate their adaptation to life in Taiwan. The 2019 on-the-job training for international teachers was launched at the Taichung Branch (Fengyuan) of the National Academy for Educational Research from January 15 through 17, 2020. In addition to the English teaching-related practical

classes, the principles of the 12-Year Basic Education curriculum guidelines were incorporated into the training to guide international teachers to design lessons with better quality for the benefit of local students.

To provide international English teachers in Taiwan with more professional assistance in teaching, the K-12 Education Administration of the Ministry of Education has commissioned the National Taiwan Normal University to work on the “Introducing International English Teachers to Public National Elementary and Junior High Schools” project, and arranged a series of training sessions, including pre-service training and on-the-job training, for international English teachers. The three-day on-the-job training for international English teachers held at the Taichung Branch of the National Academy for Educational Research included sharing of practical experience in conducting English classes, creative teaching activity design, and the curriculum guidelines of 12-Year Basic Education, while "World Cafe" was held to allow international teachers to keep abreast of the latest information on English teaching in Taiwan with Taiwanese teachers' assistance, to spark more creative teaching ideas through exchanges and to make the most complete preparation for English teaching.

In addition, the K-12 Education Administration of the Ministry of Education provides international teachers with relevant consulting services to help them better understand Taiwan's English education policy and the current situation of English teaching in remote areas, while assisting them in adapting to life in Taiwan as soon as possible.

According to the K-12 Education Administration of the Ministry of Education, introducing international English teachers to elementary and junior high schools in remote areas will help to pave the way for students' English listening and speaking abilities. It will not only increase their exposure to English but also help them understand different cultures through interaction with

these international teachers from different countries. This will help to raise students' interest in learning English and enhance their international perspective.