

Facilitation of Inter-school Online Teaching Empowerment Workshops: Enhancing Intercultural Communication Skills among Teachers

(Courtesy of Lin, Ya-Han, Division of Academic Senior High Education)



To encourage domestic senior high schools to sign memorandums of cooperation or establish sister school partnerships with foreign schools, the K-12 Education Administration, Ministry of Education continues to implement the "Subsidy Programs for Senior High Schools' Online Cooperative Teaching with Overseas Schools". In 2023, a total of 130 schools were subsidized, aiming to enhance students' awareness and understanding of multiculturalism through methods such as online cultural exchange, online collaborative teaching, or online elective credit courses.

The K-12 Education Administration explained that since 2021, it has subsidized senior high schools to promote online teaching in collaboration with foreign schools. National Taiwan Normal University has been commissioned to organize teacher empowerment workshops and provide consultation and counseling measures. As of 2023, a total of 357 programs have been subsidized, benefiting not only students but also enhancing teachers' digital online teaching skills.

The teacher empowerment workshops are divided into basic and advanced courses. The basic course is for first time applicants, while the advanced course is open to all teachers from subsidized schools. To promote the exchange of teaching experiences between domestic and foreign teachers, this year, teachers from Moreton Bay College in Australia and Fairmont High School in the United States were invited. The course content includes collaboration experiences and curriculum design of Australian schools, cross-cultural communication, and practical implementation of interdisciplinary cooperation projects, etc.

The K-12 Education Administration stated that through demonstrations and explanations by foreign experts and scholars, participating teachers are encouraged to develop cross-border collaborative online teaching plans or course modules, thereby elevating the intercultural communication skills of domestic school teachers. Additionally, by sharing domestic teaching practices, K-12EA aims to enhance the ability of domestic and foreign teachers to jointly develop issue-based international cooperative teaching plans, thereby improving students' interest and abilities in English learning.