

New Zealand China Friendship Society Inc. – Nelson Branch



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Senior Student Cultural Exchange to Yangjiang, China, April 2025.

The Nelson Branch of the NZ China Friendship Society is again arranging a student exchange with Guangdong Liangyang Senior High School in Yangjiang, Nelson's second sister-city in China. The aim is to further develop friendly relations between young people and introduce young people from Nelson to the senior high school system in China while developing mutual understanding and a raised awareness of Chinese Culture. There will be clear educational benefits as students will give full reports to TDC, NCC, NZCFS, websites, their own schools and through local and social media. There could be correlations with NZCEA where applicable.

For: Eight Y12 or Yr 13 (2025) Nelson and Richmond students and two accompanying adults.

Timing: April school holidays 2025 for 12 days including travel time.

Accommodation: Students will be billeted in the school dormitories during the school week, and in a hotel during the weekend.

Students will attend classes for 5/6 days.

Funding: NZCFS Nelson branch will cover some funding, subsidising airfares to the value of \$1000 per student. Personal costs are likely to be around \$2500 to cover travel insurance, gifts, and some travel costs. Group fundraising can be arranged.

Applications: As this is a cultural exchange, applications are sought from senior students with a particular interest in the arts, such as music, dance, film, fine arts, drama, Kapahaka.

Return exchange: It is hoped that when there is a reciprocal exchange the selected students will be able to homestay Yangjiang students.

The past exchanges have been very successful and those students who have been involved will be able to contribute information, perhaps presenting the exchange in a College newsletter or at an assembly. Jade Alborn and Megan Ritchie, Garin College students, went to Yangjiang in 2018 and then home-stayed Chinese students during the reciprocal visit in 2019. Others were selected for an exchange in 2020 which unfortunately had to be cancelled because of the pandemic.

May we please request a space to meet with interested students during a school lunch hour during the week July 29-August 2nd? This would be an information session where we will outline details of the exchange, explain costs, answer questions, and provide application information. We hope to carry out interviews in early September.

NZCFS believes there is great value in these exchanges and ask you to pass on this information to your students through newsletters, notices and social media. A poster about the information sessions will be sent once a date has been set.

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Yours sincerely

Barbara Markland

President

Nelson Branch NZChina Friendship Society.