



Teaching Roles - Further Notes for Applicants



<https://www.kings-school.com.cn>

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Founding Executive Principal

We have already begun our truly exciting journey from historic Canterbury to modern Shenzhen where the oldest school in Europe is reinventing itself in a very different environment and culture. The contrast could not be greater, but our aims are the same: that is to provide the best possible education and care for the young people we are privileged to teach as we aim to establish what we plan to be one of the very best schools in Asia. We have an historical link going back over 1400 years, but we are providing a very modern education aimed at children and young adults who will make significant and positive contributions to life in this century.

After opening our Pre-Prep (Kindergarten) in 2019 and establishing our name here in Shenzhen and more widely in China, we are now in a period of rapid growth with the development of our Prep and Senior Schools (Primary and Secondary). Our Prep School curriculum is an exciting blend of the Cambridge UK Primary, the Chinese curriculum, and our own creations. We operate in two languages, Putonghua Mandarin and English, with an appropriate mixture of Chinese and international teachers. In the Senior School, we shall be focusing upon International GCSEs and International A Levels.

These are changing times in education, and they are certainly exciting times to be a teacher. Our role as teachers is expanding and we have huge responsibilities to prepare our children for an uncertain world. We are looking for teachers who are first and foremost ‘human beings’, in the broadest sense, with modern outlooks, creative approaches, willing to develop and show initiative, but also to work as a team; they must be professional at all times and dedicated to the children they teach and the school they work in. If that is you, please contact us.

The King’s Canterbury Connection

Established 1400 years ago in the 6th century, the King’s School, Canterbury is thought to be the oldest continuously operating school in England and Europe. In the early centuries, the School was attached to Canterbury Cathedral and it still occupies buildings which are part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The School was re-founded by King Henry VIII in 1541 and hence it was given the name ‘The King’s School’. It received a new Royal Charter from King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1946.



The famous ‘King’s Week’, the festival of music and drama at the end of the summer term, started shortly thereafter in 1952. The School has continued to evolve and modernise to meet today’s educational demands. Its new International College opened in 2018, and the first stage of the Shenzhen campus opened in 2019. It is also opening a sister campus in Cambodia in 2023.

The School has enjoyed a distinguished reputation and excellent academic results. It is labelled ‘outstanding’ in regular independent inspections. Every year 99% of its graduating class go on to world

class universities. The King's School Canterbury UK is not interested in multi-franchise arrangements but in a small number of quality overseas branch schools. In this way, it will be able to keep a much closer connection between both Canterbury and the overseas branches, but also between the overseas schools themselves.

Our Shenzhen school is the first of these overseas schools and will always have a very special connection in terms of staffing, staff training, resources, policies, summer programmes, inspections and, in due course, exchanges.

Aims & Ethos



Our aim is to anchor a 21st century education within the illustrious history and traditions of both King's in Canterbury and those of modern China.

A King's education is built upon the twin pillars of academic excellence and co-curricular opportunity, supported by the highest standards of pastoral care. Our philosophy is that talented pupils are 'stretched but not stressed' by enlightened and stimulating teaching and that they learn best through positive and dynamic interaction with their teachers, peers and surroundings.

We take a holistic approach to education: that means caring about our children's academic, physical and psychological growth. The King's schools strive to achieve this by creating an environment that is nurturing, supportive and engaging.



King's Canterbury and Shenzhen schools focus at all times on the ultimate goals of ensuring that well-rounded individuals leave capable of attending the world's top universities with the transferable skills required for 21st century workplace, with a strong focus upon creativity, originality, and initiative, to render them capable of being global leaders, innovators and citizens. This is a huge and exciting challenge in a fast-moving, changing world which requires our expertise in pastoral care and personal development as well as academic quality and flexibility. This emphasis upon student and staff

well-being is very important to us: with a great deal of uncertainty ahead, it is essential that educators provide our young people firm foundations in caring, supportive community. We take this responsibility very seriously.

Our Schools in Shenzhen



Our Pre-Prep is blessed with the wonderful green backdrop of the *Da Nanshan* – the Nanshan mountain – and the children enjoy very generous outdoor space as well as extremely well-fitted classrooms. In addition, there is an excellent library, art maker-space, a mindfulness room, a large music hall and an indoor play area.

The curriculum is based on the UK’s EYFS (Early Year Foundation Stage) which allows children to learn through exploring the world and playing.

Everything we do is in two languages and all classes have two teachers, one international and one Chinese and at least one TA.

Our main campus, 4 kilometres away from the Pre-Prep, is designed specifically for the Prep and Senior Schools (Primary and Secondary). Currently under construction, it will open in 2022, modern in appearance and modern in the way it will meet the needs of today’s children. There are open learning and break-out spaces, both indoors and out, alongside bright and flexible classrooms with specialist laboratories, common social areas, sports, music and drama facilities.



Some of the ‘signature’ spaces include: library, health & well-being centre, robotics lab, space centre, performance halls, theatre, recording studio, sports hall, swimming pool, a martial arts room and outdoor sports and play facilities.

We fully adopt the King’s School Canterbury’s long-established pursuit of academic excellence together with self-exploration and expression through a wide range of co-curricular activities, continually supported by the highest standards of care for the whole person. A King’s education is designed to prepare students not only for the next stage in their studies but also for life outside and beyond school. The academic curriculum and the co-curriculum work simultaneously in this respect. In both, students continue to develop their creative and communication skills, but at the same time learn the importance of academic rigour and application. Through active learning they are asked to conduct their own research,

solve problems, make presentations, and accept new challenges. However, they are also taught to develop those traditional scholarly skills necessary for passing examinations at the highest level.

At the higher end, students will prepare for global university entrance through Cambridge IGCSEs and International A Levels.

Shenzhen City and Life



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o-yZbAtIjD8>

<https://worldpopulationreview.com/world-cities/shenzhen-population>.

Shenzhen is a first-tier city, the fourth largest in China, located along the southern tip of the country along the eastern bank of the Pearl River. The city covers an area of 1,992 square km and, as of the end of 2019, its official permanent population stood at over 12.53 million, though its daily estimate is closer to 15 million.

The city has become a magnet for technology start-ups. It is home to the Shenzhen Stock Exchange as well as the headquarters of numerous multinational companies such as Vanke, JXD, Hytera, CIMC, Shenzhen Airlines, Nepstar, Hasee, PingAn Bank, PingAn Insurance, China Merchants Bank, Tencent, ZTE, Huawei and BYD. Shenzhen ranks 16th in the 2020 edition of the Global Financial Centres Index, behind on Shanghai and Beijing in China. It also has become one of the busiest container ports in the world.

Shenzhen's modern cityscape is the result of its vibrant economy made possible by rapid foreign investment since the institution of the policy of "reform and opening" in late 1970s when the SEZ was established. The local government aims at building Shenzhen into a core engine, in terms of both technology innovation and financial support, driving development of the 'Greater Bay Area' and, by 2035, into a global technology innovation hub, dubbed the next Silicon Valley.

Cost of Living

How much a person spends a month in Shenzhen is determined by their lifestyle choices. You can buy almost anything you want though it is best to learn how to use the various online systems. Anything imported is more expensive. Local made products are generally much cheaper. Eating out at a small local restaurant for dinner can be as little as 30 CNY. A typical dinner with a glass of wine or beer will average about 150 CNY. Almost all Western tastes and preferences can be catered for.

You can refer to www.numbeo.com for some comparisons. Current exchange rate is around GBP 1 to CNY 8.6.

Food and Dining

Shenzhen is a new city with a huge variety of dishes from all over China and Asia. European cuisine is increasingly also available. People pay much attention to the colour, taste and presentation of cuisines. As workers from all over China come to work and live in Shenzhen, you can taste a huge variety of Chinese cuisines, especially popular are the hot and spicy Hunan and Sichuan dishes. In fact, food from as far north as Heilongjiang and as far west as Xinjiang can also be found easily. Closer to home, it is said that Guangdong people can eat absolutely anything that has four legs other than a table, no matter where is from. Therefore, people regard Cantonese food as one of the most adventurous food in China. However, most western foods can also now be easily found relatively close to the school sites, especially in Shekou (three metro stops or 20 minutes by taxi), and in the many shopping malls of Shenzhen.

For **further information** on Shenzhen, please visit:

<http://www.szdaily.com/>;

<http://www.thatsmags.com/shenzhen>

And for local area entertainment, please see: <https://shekoudaily.com/>

Festivals & Culture

Chinese culture dates back thousands of years and many festivals are still celebrated. Families and food are at the centre of everything the Chinese do.

Festivals such as Dragon Boat Festival, Tomb sweeping, Mid-Autumn Festival and of course the Chinese New Year immerse you in the long history of China. Western festivals like Christmas (without the religious element), Halloween, Mother's Day are celebrated too.

Climate

Shenzhen has a tropical climate with hot (often) wet summers and mild (usually) dry winters. Spring and Autumn tend to be beautiful times for getting out, walking and sight-seeing.

Travel

Within Shenzhen, the use of subway, buses and taxis (especially Didi) are convenient. Metro is cheap, popular with teachers and very efficient, a typical journey will cost 5 yuan (56P).

For travelling beyond Shenzhen:

- Hong Kong is one hour away by ferry from Shekou port (about 20 minutes' drive from the School); or reached by train and cross border buses.
- Macau is also an hour away by ferry from Shekou and Hong Kong airport only 30 minutes.
- Fast speed trains connect you to cities all over China – Guangzhou is 35 minutes; Shanghai is 6 hours; Guilin is 2 hours; and Beijing is 8 hours.
- Shenzhen Bao'an airport (22 km from the School) or the Guangzhou Bai Yun airport (2 hours by car from the School) or Hong Kong airport (55 km) connect you to all over the world – Thailand, Malaysia, Cambodia, the Philippines, Japan, Vietnam are all 2-4 hours away.
- For vacations, China itself has so many wonderful places to visit from the major cities to rural outposts, breath-taking mountain ranges to modern theme parks.

Teachers

China is a very comfortable, safe and exciting place to live and work. However, getting here, especially during the pandemic is a long process which for the foreseeable future is likely to involve 3 weeks of quarantine. Once appointed we help you with the visa process and aim to make your adjustment as comfortable as possible. We have dedicated members of the HR department to help new teachers and employ an experienced agency to support us through all the required processes.

Contracts are for two-years, but renewable if both sides agree.

We are looking for teachers who believe in what we are providing and care about the children they teach. They should be professional, modern in their thinking, flexible, independent but prepared to operate in a team, and dedicated to their work. They need to have relevant degrees, teaching qualifications (preferably) and previous teaching experience. They also need a sense of humour and a sense of adventure.



Prerequisites for foreigners acquiring a teaching work permit

Pre-Prep / Kindergarten or English Teaching

1. Unless they qualify have a relevant Post-Graduate degree (see 3 below) teachers must be citizens (by passport) of the following countries deemed to be English-speaking:

Ascension Island, Australia, Bermuda, British Antarctic Territory, British Indian Ocean Territory, Canada, Falkland Islands (i.e. Malvinas), Gibraltar, Guernsey, Guyana (formerly British Guyana), Ireland, Isle of Man, Jersey, New Zealand, Pitcairn islands, Singapore, South Africa, British territory of Cyprus, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, St. Helena, Tristan da Cunha Islands, United Kingdom, United States, American Virgin Islands, Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, British Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands.

2. Thereafter, the current situation for acquiring a work permit as a teacher include the applicant meeting **one** of the following requirements:
 - A Bachelor's degree and two years of appropriate teaching experience
 - A Bachelor's degree of Education
 - A Bachelor's degree plus a TEFL qualification or a Teaching Certificate from one of the countries listed above
3. If a teacher has a Master's degree (or above) in Education from a recognised university in one of the countries listed above, then s/he can apply for a teacher's work permit even if s/he is not a citizen of that country.

Primary and Secondary Teaching

Homeroom and English teachers must qualify as above for Kindergartens.

Subject specialist teachers can come from non-English speaking countries so long as they fulfil the following requirements:

- A Bachelor's degree and two years of appropriate teaching experience, both in the appropriate subject
- A Post-Graduate degree and two years of appropriate teaching experience in the appropriate subject

If you are unsure as to whether you meet any of these requirements, please contact our HR department: hr2@kings-school.com.cn.

Application Procedures

The application process is as follows:

1. Complete EITHER the TES application form obtainable through the TES advertisement OR forward your own detailed **resumé/curriculum vitae**, with your qualifications and career fully itemised separately but in chronological order, to hr2@kings-school.com.cn.
2. Your application should also contain a **Personal Statement**. The statement should clearly deal with the following aspects in this order:
 - your teaching specialisms including your preferred age-groups
 - your personal educational philosophy
 - why moving to The King's School in Shenzhen is the right move for you at this time
 - how your academic and teaching qualifications/experience support this move
 - your other interests and skills and how you could use them in the school's co-curriculum programme

Enquiries or questions prior to application can also be addressed to hr2@kings-school.com.cn or to the Executive Principal's Assistant, Jessie Chen on jessie.chen@kings-school.com.cn.

Safeguarding

The King's School Shenzhen International is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in its care. As an employer, the School expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All staff must understand and commit to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children when carrying out their duties. New staff must sign to state they have read and understood all the required documents and policies. Staff must undertake Child Protection training soon after joining the School.

Equal Opportunities

The King's School Shenzhen International is an equal opportunities employer. Employees enjoy equal opportunities (recruitment, training, promotion and socialisation, etc.), regardless of race, nationality, religion, gender, age, disability, marital status and sexual orientation, etc.

The King's School promotes employment practice designed to eliminate discrimination. Therefore, our aim is

- *To ensure that no job applicant receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation.*
- *All job applicants will be treated equally and fairly in the recruitment process as stated in this policy.*
- *The successful applicant will be recruited and trained on the basis of ability, experience and skill to undertake the job successfully as defined within the job description and person specification.*