

# 威雅学校

WYCOMBE ABBEY SCHOOLS
INTERNATIONAL

## Engage with China Scholarships



Entry into Grade 11 (Year 12) September 2024



#### Introduction

In September 2023, we welcomed our first cohort of ten international students from a range of schools and backgrounds in the UK to Wycombe Abbey School, Changzhou in a unique venture. Coming just as borders fully reopened, we encouraged a group of inquisitive students to engage with China in a way that had only been talked about before.

With a range of language skills, from beginner to HSK3, the intrepid students were fast tracked through applications, interviews, visas, and flights within the space of two months. They quickly assimilated into life in our busy boarding school, with places in different Houses. They joined clubs as diverse as fencing, robotics, and the World Scholar's Cup, made it on to the swim team, started DofE Gold Awards, volunteered at events, and joined early morning rowing training.

Our 'Engage with China' (a UK educational Charity) Scholars will gain a deeper understanding of Chinese culture by sharing experiences, food, and conversations with new friends. Already they have visited Ancient Water Towns of Suzhou, experienced street food in Wuxi, attended the Xitaihu Mid-Autumn Festival, seen the bright lights of Shanghai, climbed Jiangsu's Purple Mountain to the Buddhist temple and explored the site of the Nanjing Massacre. These students are receiving a truly global perspective, an opportunity to live and learn as international students and mirroring experiences of many Chinese students who have been brave enough to travel to and study at schools in the UK for years.

### Pioneers they have been 5.5 Ambassadors they are 5.5 Global Citizens they will be





#### **Engage with China (EwC)**

Engage with China (EwC) is an educational charity whose mission is to spark an interest in China in a generation of young people in UK schools. Opinions about China are controversial but its impact and influence on the world is undeniable. EwC addresses a huge gap in China-related education building a pipeline of future ambassadors and cross-cultural leaders who understand its relevance, rise, innovation, impact, historical links and culture. It achieves this through a number of pioneering initiatives including:

- Immersive Curriculum Enrichment: 'China Challenge Days' focusing on geography, population size, ancient history, philosophy and well-being, silk roads and tea culture and making curriculum links across multiple subjects.
- Annual Model United Nations Climate Change Conference: with participation from schools around the world, including China, building global perspectives and 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.
- Summer Camps in the UK: enabling real people-people encounters and a rich programme of cultural activities.
- Heritage Partnerships: enabling museums to appreciate the Chinese influence not only of their
  collections but on wider British society, thereby enabling them to reach new audiences, including
  school groups, and to build wider community links.























#### **EwC Scholarship Programme**

The EwC Scholarship Programme is a unique opportunity for British students to study their A-Levels in China, enabling them not only to acquire cross-cultural and vital employability skills but also to develop a competitive edge and China literacy through this immersive and life-changing experience.

EwC is involved in all aspects of the application and recruitment process, pre-departure cultural workshops and throughout the study time abroad in China. EwC also plays a pivotal and continual role on the UK side supporting the scholars and their parents and liaising with Wycombe Abbey Schools to ensure the smooth running of the programme. This ensures that positive links are nurtured, any issues resolved and that scholars can flourish from the moment they arrive in China.







EwC (registered charity: Number 1184881) was founded in 2018 by two British educational entrepreneurs who have studied, worked and lived in China over the last 30+ years. To date, the charity has enabled more than 3,500 pupils across the UK to encounter China for themselves.

Find out more: www.engagewithchina.org

Email: <u>info@engagewithchina.org</u> FB / LinkedIn: @Engage with China

X: @engage\_china





Every Child Can Excel 每一个孩子都卓越



#### **Wycombe Abbey Schools International**

BE Education has three world class boarding and day schools for children aged 3 to 18 in China, providing an all-round, fully integrated, bilingual, holistic education that not only prepares students for entry to the world's top universities, but provides them with the knowledge, skills, and competencies for life. The schools' vision is that 'Every child can excel', and it is our responsibility to approach each student as an individual and nurture them as they grow in confidence, take on responsibility, and achieve independence.







#### **Holistic Education**

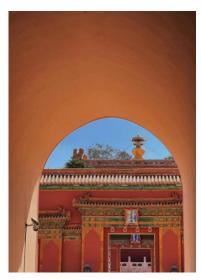
At WAS we want every child to **discover** a love of learning; to progress from dependence upon their teachers and peers into **independent** thinkers and learners; and to mature with compassion and **kindness**, supporting the aspirations of those around them, sharing in their successes and, together, contributing to the local community and wider world. To deliver a **holistic education**, we are guided by five key aims:

The Five Aims								
Pastoral	We will provide a caring and supportive full boarding environment in which every child and adult is happy, safe, and respected, so that they can build strong, long-lasting relationships, flourish and fulfil their potential.							
Academic	We will provide excellent teaching and resources to enable every student to develop a lifelong love of learning, make continual progress, and attain the qualifications necessary for entry to the world's top universities.							
Enrichment	We will provide a broad range of creative, physical, technical, communication and performance opportunities for students to discover their passions and develop their talents, learn new skills, and enhance personal competencies.							
Extension	We will stretch, challenge and mentor students as they deepen their global understanding, demonstrate creativity, innovate, take on positions of responsibility, build trust and respect, and encourage all around them to succeed.							
Community	We will nurture an outward looking school, think sustainably, collaborate with partners, enable everyone to grow in confidence, become excellent decision makers, and have a positive impact in the world.							

In brief, our guiding aims are to ensure that every child is happy and safe; develops a love of learning, discovers their talents; deepens their global understanding; and contributes to the world around them.

#### **Cultural Education**

An important element of the scholarship is to enable scholars to get an appreciation of the life, customs and cultural heritage of the people of China. This will be provided through access to cultural festivals and trips to various locations during school holidays when scholars do not travel home. Trips to Beijing, Shanghai and Suzhou, as well as exchanges with scholars in sister schools in Changzhou, Hangzhou and Nanjing, with visits to museums, cultural sites, temples, and sites of natural beauty will be arranged.















#### **WAS Changzhou**

WAS Changzhou, founded in 2012, is an oasis on the banks of West Tai Lake (Xitaihu), with magnificent world-class facilities (including 12 senior and 3 junior Boarding Houses, its own 25m pool, Rowing and Sailing Club, Watersports Centre, the largest air filtered and temperature controlled sports dome in any school in the world, a Theatre Complex for the Performing Arts, 10 Studios for the Visual & Creative Arts, 16 Science, Engineering and Technology Laboratories); a **thriving international community of 1200 students** and 380 staff, including 30 professional performing arts teachers and 11 visual arts specialists; over 100 different clubs and societies (covering physical, creative, performance, communication, technological and environmental disciplines); 30 options for IGCSE and A Level; and a real sense of purpose.



Nine cohorts of students have recorded excellent examination results, with 100% of Graduates proceeding to international universities of their choice in the United Kingdom, Germany, Switzerland, Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Macau. Our graduates have been accepted onto over 100 different academic courses, covering science & technology, commerce & management, and the visual & performing arts. Destinations include Cambridge, Oxford, Imperial, UCL, Edinburgh, Manchester, KCL, LSE, UC Berkeley, UCLA, Columbia, Johns Hopkins, Melbourne, Sydney, Toronto, and McGill, as well as the Royal College of Music, Guildhall, NYU, the Royal Northern College of Music, Royal College of Art, UAL, Parsons, and Carnegie Mellon.

**32% of our graduates have gone on to study at the world's top 20** universities (QS Rankings) to study a wide range of subjects across the fields of science & technology, commerce & management, and visual & performing arts. WASCZ graduates are research scientists, engineers, designers, architects, medics, educators, linguists, business leaders, innovators, musicians, and artists.

WASCZ is a member of COBIS, a Cambridge Professional Development Centre, IELTS Beacon School and Cambridge English Centre. Voted 'International School of the Year' by the Boarding Schools Association in 2022, WASCZ is more than a campus; it is a community that has a soul, where every child can excel.



#### **WAS Hangzhou**

Wycombe Abbey School Hangzhou is a K-12 Co-educational bilingual British-style boarding and day school in Hangzhou, China. The school opened in 2021 and there are currently around 600 students on roll. The school is an **Accredited Patrons Member of COBIS** and a member of the BSA. Kindergarten follows the EYFS curriculum and from Grade 1 (Y2) to Grade 9 (Y10) there is an integrated curriculum. Students take IGCSE and A Level examinations in the Upper School.

Wycombe Abbey School Hangzhou boasts a state-of-the-art Theatre with a seating capacity of 800, a running track, swimming pool and rugby pitch. **Most students board, and the boarding rate is currently approximately 75%.** Our boarding houses are warm, comfortable, and very much a 'home from home'. All boarder's rooms (shared in 2s or 4s) are ensuite with shower facilities. There is a busy weekend schedule with trips, activities, and academic enrichment. Food is an important component of boarding life, and our menu is excellent with Asian and International options at every meal. Our students are very much involved in the choices present on the menu and the dining rooms are extremely popular. There is a full programme of ECAs running through the week with some 60 options for students to pick from including sailing, horse riding, fencing and golf.

Staffing is generous with a teacher to student ratio of 1:4. About 50% of our staff are expatriates, 20% of staff attended an Oxbridge or Ivy League university and we offer many options both at IGCSE and A Level. Pastoral care for our students is paramount and we have a large team of teachers and Houseparents to ensure our students' well-being is well taken care of. Student voice is strong in the school with a vibrant Student Council and there are excellent leadership opportunities for students with roles in House leadership, school prefects and on the sports field. There is a well-developed mentorship programme where older students have an opportunity to guide and help younger students. The school is growing fast and it is expected that there will be **700+ students on the roll by September 2024.** 





The school is located about 30 minutes from the centre of Hangzhou, the 4th largest city in China with a population of about 10 million, and one of the ancient capitals of China. It has been a commercial and cultural centre since the 6th Century CE. Hangzhou is Famous for its silk industry and the tourist attraction West Lake, and the city is now a bustling tech hub. The HQ of Alibaba is based in the city. It is a modern forward looking and cosmopolitan city. It is a transport hub with a well-developed International Airport with direct routes to major world cities including London and is just an hour by highspeed train from Shanghai. The 19th Asian Games took place in Hangzhou in September 2023.

#### **WAS Nanjing**

WAS Nanjing is located in Nanjing, Jiangsu province, known as the "Ancient Capital of the Ten Dynasties" in China. It enjoys a unique natural environment and **rich historical and cultural resources**. Here, you can experience China's traditional civilisation while touching the modern pulse of society.

The WASNJ campus can accommodate nearly 2000 students (including beds for round 1000 boarders). It is **equipped with state-of-the-art facilities**, including an impressive Performing Arts Centre, featuring a grand theatre, 2 black box theatres, 72 sound-proof practice rooms, and a recording studio. In addition, there are multifunctional sports halls, an 8-lane 25-metre swimming pool, a STEAM 'maker centre', world-class science laboratories for competitions, 400-metre athletics track and football field, and other functional venues, providing robust support for the implementation of holistic education and individulised pursuits. The dormitory options feature both double and quadruple rooms, providing each student with a dedicated study space. Additionally, each boarding house is furnished with a common room, offering students inviting spaces to unwind, engage in social activities, and fully embrace the enriching aspects of boarding life.



As a sister school of the century-old prestigious Wycombe Abbey in the United Kingdom, WAS Nanjing inherits the authentic boarding education system and ethos and integrates the essence of Chinese education, offering a comprehensive education for students from Kindergarten to High School. Guided by the philosophy of holistic education, our commitment extends beyond fostering exceptional proficiency in both Chinese and English languages, **interdisciplinary inquiry skills anchored in real-world problem-solving**, and the development of critical thinking. We also prioritise shaping each student's confidence, independence, and social-emotional growth through our tutorial system, diverse enrichment clubs, trips and expeditions, both within China and overseas, in partnership with our sister schools.

#### Sixth Form at WAS

In Grades 11-12 (Sixth Form) at a Wycombe Abbey school, students will experience the following:

#### **Pastoral**

- Full boarding in a purpose designed House on campus for girls (Austen, Blyton, Cavell, Dove, Fonteyn, or Somerville) or boys (Blake, Elgar, Hawkin, Newton, Scott, or Turner) aged 12-18
- $\triangleright$ On-campus Wellbeing Counsellors, Medical Centre, and Security 24/7
- International and Chinese cuisine served three times each day, 365 days per year
- Full laundry service, uniform shop, and easy access to local amenities

#### **Academic**

- Four A-Levels chosen from a broad range of subjects (see table) plus Global Perspectives (A-Level)
- Chinese Language & Culture (leading to A-Level, HSK awards, or equivalent)

Mathematics	Further Mathematics Physics		Chemistry	Biology	
Computer Science	ICT	Business	Economics	Psychology	
Geography	History	Travel & Tourism	Accounting	Sports Science	
Fine Art	Photography	Graphic Design	Music	Music Technology	
Drama	Dance	English Language	English Literature	Spanish	

#### **Enrichment**

- 100+ Clubs & Societies (physical, creative, performance, communication, technical, environmental)
- Sport & Exercise, 2 gymnasiums, swimming pool, Rowing & Sailing Club, plus many choices of sports
- Inter-House Competitions (in sports, the arts, debating etc.)
- Domestic and International Trips programme (in 2023-4 these included: Hainan, Jilin, Yunnan, Beijing, Inner Mongolia, Spain, Korea, Japan, Italy, Germany, Austria, UK, Switzerland, New Zealand etc.)
- Duke of Edinburgh International Awards (Bronze, Silver, Gold)

#### Extension

- Extended Project Qualification (research topics, mentored by a specialist, leading to 0.5 A-Level)
- International Competitions (American Mathematics Challenge; Australian Science Olympiads; British Physics Olympiad; Royal Society of Chemistry Challenges; CREST Awards; Robotics; Business Innovation; Model United Nations; World Scholar's Cup; Chinese Reading; Public Speaking; Debating)
- College Guidance; interview, portfolio, and audition preparation; competitive entry test preparation

#### Community

- Opportunities to volunteer, and raise awareness and funds for local charities
- Act as a tour guide, presenter, performer or demonstrator at school open days and events
- $\triangleright$ Represent the school as an ambassador for visitors or at special events

#### The Scholarships

WAS is offering up to 30 scholarships across its schools to talented, open-minded students who wish to engage more deeply with China. There are three types of scholarships available:

- 1. WAS Engage with China: Academic Scholarship
- 2. WAS Engage with China: Performing Arts Scholarship
- 3. WAS Engage with China: Visual Arts Scholarship

#### All scholars are eligible for the following benefits:

- > 100% fee remission on Tuition, Boarding, Food
- Study Visa and Medical
- Airport Transfers in China
- Emergency medical and accident insurance
- > Entries to international competitions that will strengthen university applications
- Annual Scholars' Dinner
- Scholars' Tie and Pin
- College Guidance Counselling
- Support opening a bank account and obtaining a local SIM card

#### In addition, full scholarships are available, on merit, and include these benefits:

- Annual Flights between UK and China
- Uniform and Sports Kit
- Examination entries
- Cultural trips in short holidays to Shanghai, Suzhou, Wuxi, Nanjing, Hangzhou, and Changzhou
- House events, dinners, and celebrations

Scholarships will be awarded based on the following assessment criteria:

- Aptitude measured by examination results and evidence of work or performances completed
- Potential measured by tasks set at the time of assessment and reports from teachers
- Motivation measured at interview to gauge work ethic, passion for learning, and future aspirations

In awarding Scholarships, we are looking for students who perform at a standard well above their peers in one or more major discipline(s) and who demonstrate a thirst for knowledge and potential for enhanced achievement. This could be academic ability or excellence in the performing or visual arts.

#### 1. WAS Engage with China: Academic Scholarship

#### **Qualifying Criteria**

Students should be able to meet the following criteria to apply for a scholarship:

- be set to achieve IGCSE (GCSE) passes in at least five subjects including Mathematics and English
- > have predicted Grade 8 or 9 for their chosen A-Level subjects (or equivalent) from their current school
- be eligible to enter Grade 11 (UK Year 12) in September 2024
- wish to study A-Levels and graduate from High School (Sixth Form) in June 2026
- be eligible for a Chinese study visa
- aspire to attend an international 'top 30' university following graduation from High School

#### **Selection Criteria**

To receive the offer of a scholarship, candidates will be expected to:

- > submit a fully completed application form
- provide a medical declaration form
- produce documentary proof of identity
- > supply a recommendation letter from current school
- take a CAT4 Cognitive Abilities Test (online)
- provide certificates of relevant achievements (examinations, special awards etc.)
- > write an academic paper, essay, or test, as appropriate
- attend an interview (online or offline)

#### **Additional Benefits and Expectations**

In addition to the general benefits, Academic Scholars will:

- receive a weekly tutorial for academic extension, university test preparation etc.
- become a member of the Xilingshi-Lovelace Society for scholars (see later)
- > show commitment and enthusiasm for extension activities
- develop their mental capacities to their fullest and set high expectations
- engage in personal target-setting and reviews
- act as a role model to other students through excellent attitude to learning and achievement
- > support and contribute to cultural activities and House events
- represent the school at external events, competitions, tournaments etc.
- research original work on a topic of their choosing for the EPQ qualification
- complete an EPQ in the Autumn of G12 and present their work at the annual WAS Colloquium
- > support, as a volunteer, the Global Perspectives Exchange and Short Course programmes during July at the end of G11 (Year 12)

#### 2. WAS Engage with China: Performing Arts Scholarship

#### **Qualifying Criteria**

Students should be able to meet the following criteria to apply for a scholarship:

- be set to achieve IGCSE (GCSE) passes in at least five subjects including Mathematics and English
- have predicted Grade 9 in a Performing Arts discipline at IGCSE (GCSE) or equivalent
- be eligible to enter Grade 11 (UK Year 12) in September 2024
- wish to study A-Levels and graduate High School (Sixth Form) in June 2026
- be eligible for a Chinese study visa
- aspire to attend a 'top 20' Performing Arts College following graduation from High School

#### Selection Criteria

To receive the offer of a scholarship, candidates will be expected to:

- > submit a fully completed application form
- > provide a medical declaration form
- produce documentary proof of identity
- > supply a recommendation letter from current school
- take a CAT4 Cognitive Abilities Test (online)
- provide certificates of relevant achievements (examinations, special awards etc.)
- > provide recordings of relevant performances or attend a live audition
- attend an interview (online or offline)

#### **Additional Benefits and Expectations**

In addition to the general benefits, Performing Arts Scholars will:

- receive two one-to-one lessons each week in disciplines of their choice, (such as piano, vocal, violin, cello, clarinet, saxophone, percussion, ballet, speech, acting etc.), with our professional tutors
- rehearse with ensembles and companies for concerts and productions, taking leading roles
- > perform at school and community events and the annual scholars' concert
- represent WAS in competitions and concerts
- > show commitment and enthusiasm for extension activities
- > develop their creative capacities to their fullest and set high expectations
- engage in personal target-setting and review
- > act as a role model to other students through excellent attitude to learning and achievement
- > support and contribute to cultural activities and House events
- > support, as a volunteer, the Global Perspectives Exchange and Short Course programmes during July at the end of G11 (Year 12)

#### 3. WAS Engage with China: Visual Arts Scholarship

#### **Qualifying Criteria**

Students should be able to meet the following criteria to apply for a scholarship:

- be set to achieve IGCSE (GCSE) passes in at least five subjects including Mathematics and English
- have predicted Grade 9 in an Art & Design discipline at IGCSE (GCSE) from their current school
- be eligible to enter Grade 11 (UK Year 12) in September 2024
- wish to study A-Levels and graduate High School (Sixth Form) in June 2026
- > be eligible for a Chinese study visa
- aspire to attend a 'top 20' Visual Arts College following graduation from High School

#### Selection Criteria

To receive the offer of a scholarship, candidates will be expected to:

- > submit a fully completed application form
- provide a medical declaration form
- produce documentary proof of identity
- > supply a recommendation letter from current school
- > take a CAT4 Cognitive Abilities Test (online)
- provide evidence of creative compositions (artwork, photography, designs etc.)
- provide certificates of relevant achievements (examinations, special awards etc.)
- attend an interview (online or offline)

#### **Additional Benefits and Expectations**

In addition to the general benefits, Visual Arts Scholars will:

- receive a weekly tutorial for portfolio development
- prepare and exhibit work at school and community events and the annual scholars' exhibition
- represent WAS in competitions
- > show commitment and enthusiasm for extension activities
- develop their creative capacities to their fullest and set high expectations
- engage in personal target-setting and review
- > act as a role model to other students through excellent attitude to learning and achievement
- > support and contribute to cultural activities and House events
- support, as a volunteer, the Global Perspectives Exchange and Short Course programmes during July at the end of G11 (Year 12)



#### Xilingshi-Lovelace Society

All scholars are automatically members of the Xilingshi-Lovelace Society that meets regularly to debate global events and issues, develop critical and lateral thinking skills, and encourage creativity, innovation, and problem solving. Students are also supported as they enter International Competitions.

#### **Ada Lovelace** (10-Dec 1815 – 27-Nov 1852)

Augusta Ada Byron, Countess of Lovelace, was an English mathematician who is credited with inventing the first rudimentary system of computation that would later be used in computer languages and programming. Her experiments with Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine led to her developing the first algorithms.





#### Xilingshi (2700–2640 BCE)

Xilinshi was a Chinese empress who is credited with having discovered how to produce silk from silkworms. This process was kept secret from the rest of the world for more than 2,000 years, creating a monopoly on silk fabric production. This led to a lucrative trade in silk fabric, which in turn, gave its name to the 'Silk Road'.





#### **Scholarship Application Process**

Applicants for one of the scholarships should follow the steps set out below:

- 1. Complete the WAS Scholarship Application Form
- 2. Submit the Application Form and additional documents to <a href="mailto:scholarships@waiscz.com">scholarships@waiscz.com</a>
- 3. Receive acknowledgement of receipt of application
- 4. Complete the online Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4)
- 5. Attend an interview (either online or offline) with Scholarship Selection Panel
- 6. Receive feedback / offer
- 7. Accept / Reject Scholarship offer
- 8. Attend on-boarding meeting (offline)
- 9. Prepare all documents, including visa, for entry to China
- 10. Attend Engage with China pre-departure cultural workshop
- 11. Meet at agreed location for travel to China with other scholars

#### Timeline for Scholarship Awards for 2024

Awards	Marketing	Applications	CAT4 online	Interviews	lint om doved	Offers	On-board	Arrival in
Published	with EWC	Deadline	Assessment		Offers	meetings	China	
w/c 12-Jan	w/c 05-Feb	25-Mar	w/c 01-Apr	w/c 15-Apr	w/c 22-Apr	w/c 29-Apr	w/c 26-Aug	











#### **Scholarship Selection Panel**

The Scholarship Selection Panel will review the application materials, conduct interviews and decide the awards that should be made. The panel will constitute the following members:

- 1. Dr Sun Ling (Chief Advisor to BE Education)
- 2. Mr Yue Shi (Vice President BE Education)
- 3. Mrs H-J Colston (Director of Engage with China)
- 4. Mr Tig Mooney (Executive Headmaster WAS Hangzhou)
- 5. Mr Christopher Chadwick (Executive Headmaster WAS Nanjing)
- 6. New Appointment (Headmaster WAS Changzhou)

The panel will be supported by the Heads of Performing and Visual Arts from the schools when assessing the suitability of candidates for awards.





#### **Scholarship Interview**

At interview, candidates will be asked to introduce themselves, articulate their suitability for the scholarship, and provide evidence for their pioneering spirit, motivation to become a student ambassador and academic potential by answering a series of questions relating to their chosen scholarship. Interviews will be conducted in English. Candidates are not expected to have studied Chinese, but should have an appreciation of Chinese culture and be able to explain how they would like to become global citizens.



#### **Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4)**

The CAT4 assessment is conducted online from a candidate's home and measures verbal, quantitative, non-verbal and spatial reasoning abilities. It is not a pass / fail examination, but rather is used by the school to give students advice about the most suitable subject choices for A-Level study and to provide guidance in areas for academic support or challenge. Results will be used alongside other evidence such as current school reports and references, previous achievements and interview or audition performance.

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