



EDUN C18-13-005 Vol 52

13 Feb 2019

The Parent/Guardian of \_\_\_\_\_

Through: The Principal  
Raffles Institution  
1 Raffles Institution Lane  
Singapore 575954

Dear Parent/Guardian

**STUDY-CUM-IMMERSION PROGRAMME IN ENGLISH FOR TAIWANESE STUDENTS AND STUDY-CUM-IMMERSION PROGRAMME IN MANDARIN FOR SINGAPOREAN STUDENTS, 2019**

I would like to congratulate you on the good performance of your son/daughter/ward in the 2018 GCE 'O' level examination. I am pleased to invite him/her to participate in a study-cum-immersion programme jointly organised by the Ministry of Education of Singapore and that of Taiwan.

2 The programme consists of two parts, namely:

- an immersion programme in English for Taiwanese students who will be hosted by Singaporean families; and
- an immersion programme in Mandarin for Singaporean students who will be hosted by Taiwanese families.

3 The objectives of the programme for our Singaporean students are:

- To improve their proficiency in Mandarin;
- To enhance their knowledge of Chinese culture and tradition; and
- To establish goodwill and friendship between the young people of Singapore and Taiwan.

4 The details of the programme are outlined below:

**4.1 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Study-cum-Immersion Programme in English for Taiwanese Students in Singapore (16 Jul - 31 Jul 2019)**

- Your son/daughter/ward will play host to a Taiwanese student who will stay in your home and attend lessons in the college with him/her.
- Arrangement will be made for the Taiwanese student to attend English language lessons specially designed for him/her.
- The Ministry of Education will organise and pay for educational excursions.
- You will be given a nominal sum to offset expenses for hosting the Taiwanese student.

**4.2 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Study-cum-Immersion Programme in Mandarin for Singaporean Students in Taiwan (25 Nov – 10 Dec 2019)**

- Your son/daughter/ward will stay with a family in Taiwan and attend school there with his/her host student.
- You will have to pay for the return airfare (group concession rate) to and from Taiwan.
- All the on-shore expenses in Taiwan will be borne by the Taiwanese education authority.
- The duration of the stay in Taiwan will be 16 days.
- You will have to purchase insurance coverage (i.e. travel accident and medical insurance) for your son/daughter/ward during his/her stay in Taiwan.

5 An interview will be conducted to select 60 applicants for the programme. The selected candidates are required to participate in **both** parts of the programme, as stated in paras 4.1 & 4.2.

6 The Singapore-Taiwan immersion programme has been conducted every year since 1982. Previous participants of the study-cum-immersion programme found it educational and enjoyable.

7 I would like to invite your son/daughter/ward to attend a briefing on the programme on **Fri 15 Mar 2019 at 1600 hours in Lecture Theatre 2, National Junior College.**

8 Should you wish your son/daughter/ward to be considered for the programme, please complete Forms A and B and return them to his/her Principal by **29 Mar 2019.**

9 Students who had participated in a study-cum-immersion programme in France/Germany/Japan organised by the Ministry of Education may also apply. However, they will be given lower priority in the selection of candidates for the Singapore-Taiwan student exchange programme.

Yours sincerely,

HENG BOEY HONG  
DIRECTOR  
MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGES BRANCH  
CURRICULUM PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIVISION  
for PERMANENT SECRETARY (EDUCATION)