

# Chinese students flock to Britain

Submitted by: HBL Media

Wednesday, 13 August 2008

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The number of Chinese students enrolling in A-level, language and foundation courses in Britain is increasing at an unprecedented rate, according to leading international education provider, Study Group, which has seen Chinese student numbers grow by almost 300 per cent in four years.

Chinese enrolments on English language courses provided by Embassy CES rose from 358 in 2003 to 1900 in 2007. Those signing up for foundation A-level courses - designed to bridge the gap between Chinese high school and entry to UK university - at the Bellerbys colleges rose nearly 20% in the same period.

James Pitman, Managing Director of Study Group commented:

"The British education system is globally renowned for its quality, and students from China in particular come here to benefit from our style of learning, provided by our world-ranked universities. Many choose to complete their A-levels as this is widely acknowledged to be the best route into a top degree course, and provides excellent academic, cultural and social preparation for university.

"The Chinese remain the largest single group among overseas students in the UK, and we anticipate that this sector will continue to grow over the coming years. This is great news for our economy as international education is already a multi-billion pound export industry.

"The increase in Chinese students is proving to be a crucial tool in fostering positive long-term relations between the two countries, as China's future business leaders and entrepreneurs develop strong relationships and networks with Britain while studying."

Ahead of the Beijing Olympics, Study Group is expecting that the number of Chinese students enrolling in summer language courses will dip as more remain in their home country for the event. This is set to lead to an influx of students in September and Study Group is advising prospective students to submit their visa applications early as the process could be slowed down by a high volume of applications.

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Case study available on request: Bo Wen Wang – Chinese student taking a course at Bellerbys in Brighton who will be starting an engineering degree at Cambridge University in September.

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Notes to Editors:

About Study Group ([www.studygroup.com](http://www.studygroup.com))

Spanning five continents, Study Group is a global leader in international education, providing the highest quality educational opportunities for students from over 120 countries. Beginning in 1994 with

7000 students per year, Study Group now has an enrolment base of 40,000 around the world.

Through Study Group's leading set of partnerships with top universities, it is able to provide on and off-campus preparation courses for international students that ensure academic success and entry into some of the most prestigious educational institutions in the world. The quality of its teaching is confirmed by independent accreditation bodies worldwide including: English UK, Ofsted, British Council, NEAS, Accet, English Australia and New Zealand Qualification Authority.

Through the Bellerbys brand in the UK, Study Group provides academic preparation for international students wanting to study at English-speaking universities. Courses include GCSEs, A-Levels, specifically designed Foundation courses to gain entry into universities, a degree course and pre-masters qualifications.

Study Group offers English language courses for international students in 18 locations in all of the main Anglophone destinations through its Embassy CES brand. Courses include short-term general English, one-year academic programmes and specialist English preparation for public English language qualifications, or for degree programmes at English-speaking universities. Study Group also runs youth summer vacation courses in the UK, Ireland and the USA, combining English language training with both academic and extra-curricular activities.

The biggest intake of international students into Study Group's UK programmes is from countries with emerging economies such as China, and South East Asian economies, and in particular from oil rich nations like Russia and the Middle East.