



中国教育国际交流协会
CHINA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

**the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education,
United Kingdom**

and

**the China Education Association for International Exchange, People's
Republic of China**

This Memorandum of Understanding is made between the **Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education**, of Southgate House, Southgate Street, Gloucester GL1 1UB, London, United Kingdom, hereafter referred to as QAA

and

the **China Education Association for International Exchange**, of Yifu Conference Center, No. 160 Fuxingmen Nei Dajie, Beijing 100031, P.R.China, hereafter referred to as CEAIE.

Whereas

QAA is the Independent quality body for UK higher education with the mission to safeguard standards and improve the quality of UK higher education wherever it is delivered around the world. QAA carries out external quality assurance by visiting and monitoring universities and colleges to review how they are fulfilling their responsibilities. To support standards and promote quality enhancement QAA publishes a range of reference points, including the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, which sets out the expectations and practices that all providers of UK higher education are required to meet in setting the standards of their awards, and for managing the quality of their provision, as well as a range of guidance, analysis and insights. QAA is funded by subscriptions from universities and colleges, and through contracts with the higher education funding and regulatory bodies in the UK.

CEAIE is China's nationwide not-for-profit organisation conducting international educational exchanges. It works with educational and research institutions, academic bodies, exchange organisations, schools, as well as organisations, enterprises, foundations and individuals in other countries and regions who are engaged in the promotion of educational development and quality assurance on the basis of equality and friendship. CEAIE is committed to promoting collaboration between Chinese and foreign institutions and ensuring and

enhancing the quality of cooperative operations. CEAIE develops accreditation standards and procedures as per China's laws and regulations as well as internationally recognised best practices, and conduct quality accreditation on Chinese-foreign transnational education projects.

QAA and CEAIE

Having similar objectives in the advancement of quality assurance in higher education, both parties wish to continue and deepen further their cooperation upon the terms contained herein.

Aims

QAA and CEAIE agree through this Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate for the benefit of both parties and to work towards enhancing quality assurance in both jurisdictions and improving the quality of higher education in the United Kingdom and China. In particular, both parties will work towards enhancing cooperation in the quality assurance of UK-China transnational higher education.

This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to create legally binding relations between the parties, and neither party has the authority to act on behalf of or otherwise bind the other party. However, QAA and CEAIE agree to work together to implement this Memorandum of Understanding in good faith.

Areas of cooperation and collaboration

To these ends, QAA and CEAIE, in accordance with the framework of British and Chinese laws and regulations, will pursue the following objectives for their mutual benefit and with a commitment to facilitate the quality assurance of UK-China transnational higher education:

(a) Mutual understanding

Work to enhance their understanding of each other's approaches to assuring quality in higher education, the respective systems in place for quality assurance and enhancement in higher education, and the critical matters relating to quality and standards in higher education in both countries.

(b) Information exchange

Exchange non-confidential information about each other's activities and processes, developments in each country's higher education systems including the outcomes of each other's reviews of UK-China Cooperation in Running Schools (UCCRS), and cooperation in the development of UCCRS.

(c) Staff development

Where appropriate and possible, support the professional development of staff from the two agencies through activities such as hosting staff to each other's office for professional developmental purposes, observing each other's review processes, and provision of training.

(d) Use of each other's reviewers

Where appropriate and possible, draw on reviewers or other specialists from each other's system to strengthen the international dimension of each other's review processes.

(e) Recognition

Where appropriate and possible, in operations relating to quality assurance of transnational higher education within one party's jurisdiction but originating from the other party's jurisdiction, have due regard to the relevant decisions and judgements of the other party

(f) Collaboration

Where appropriate and possible, collaborate in relation to mutually agreed projects and activities for the benefit of both parties, including the quality assurance of transnational higher education, and undertaking research and substantial cooperation on quality assurance related issues. Both parties will particularly benefit from focusing cooperation on:

- Carrying out, whenever possible, joint review activity of transnational higher education projects.
- Conducting joint research on regulatory and quality assurance related issues of mutual interests and developing guidance to support higher education providers in UK and China which are applying for or engaging in UCCRS, to promote win-win cooperation and improve the quality of UCCRS.
- Facilitating and supporting, whenever possible, academic activities and training programs organized by each other.

Duration of Memorandum

The Memorandum of Understanding will take effect from the date of its signature and shall continue for three years unless it is terminated by the giving of three months' notice by either party. It may be extended on the mutual agreement of both parties.

Alteration of Memorandum

This Memorandum is signed by the two parties in a spirit of amicable cooperation. The terms of the Memorandum may be altered with the consent of both parties.

Management and liaison arrangements for the Memorandum

The Chief Executive of QAA (at the time of signing Mr Douglas Blackstock) and the Secretary-General of CEAIE (at the time of signing Mr ZHAO Lingshan) will have responsibility for managing the implementation of the terms of the Memorandum and taking stock of its terms on a yearly basis. This responsibility may be delegated to relevant members of the agencies' staff in relation to particular areas of cooperation.

Resources

Unless alternative arrangements are specifically agreed to undertake particular activities, the two agencies will normally cover their own costs of implementing the terms of the Memorandum. For particular areas of cooperation donor funding may be sought from other sources.

Schedule of projects and activities

Specific details on any projects or other activities, such as joint events and research, and joint

review of UCCRS or providers, that are entered into under the terms of this Memorandum shall be negotiated and agreed by both parties and will be described in work plans to be annexed to the Memorandum.

Language of Memorandum

This Memorandum is duly signed in English and Chinese, both texts being equally authentic.

Signed in Beijing on 8th, January, 2019

Signed in Gloucester on 15 JANUARY 2019

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Zhao Lingshan
Secretary-General

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Douglas Blackstock
Chief Executive

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