

Minister Jennifer Rankine

Minister for Education and Child Development

Friday, 5 September, 2014

Strengthening SA's education ties with China

A Memorandum of Agreement to be signed in Beijing today will see the South Australian Certificate of Education taught at a popular local school.

Minister for Education and Child Development Jennifer Rankine attended today's signing in Beijing, saying the agreement with the Beijing Bacui Bilingual School would strengthen ties between China and South Australia.

"This is further evidence of the high regard international educators have for the South Australian Certificate of Education," she said.

"It is an absolute credit to South Australia that our method of teaching and preparing students for adulthood is continuing to be embraced and expanded.

"The SACE is known for its innovation and its quality in preparing senior secondary students for university, and these are strongly valued in these Chinese colleges."

Ms Rankine said most students who have completed the SACE in China over the past decade have gone on to study at Australian universities, with 41% of these selecting South Australian universities.

"Today's signing represents an exciting opportunity to attract more international students to South Australia for their tertiary education," she said.

Ms Rankine said the Beijing Bacui Bilingual School has around 1000 students from China, Korea, Thailand and Kazakhstan, with the Memorandum of Agreement allowing for the SACE taught at the school from the beginning of next year.

In addition to today's signing, Ms Rankine this week met with officials from schools in Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Changzhou.

She also held talks with officials in the city of Jinan in the Shandong Province, focussing on strengthening 26-year sister-state relationship between the province and South Australia, particularly around education.