

Programme. Looking back.

Pre-departure - day before departure Kick off meeting

Sunday, 9 February (1) Online
Dr Maki from Hiroshima University will tell us about Thai education system, society and national characteristics. We learnt that the economy is developing rapidly and that educational disparities are widening; that university entrance examinations are similar to those in Japan, with various forms and intense competition; that "trust and empathy" are important when interacting with Thai people; and that Japanese culture is widely spread in Thailand through anime, music, etc. He also advised us to see how the promotion of science and math education and inclusive education coexist in the local context.

Saturday, 15 February (2) Narita
The face-to-face meeting with the members of the delegation, including a discussion on cultural exchange. As there had not been much opportunities for teachers from different schools to get together, it was very interesting to hear their thoughts on education and the situation in their schools.



16 Feb~22 Feb.

Ministry of Education and school visits

*Ministry of Education, Bangkok.
The educational goal in Thailand is 'Happy Learning'. I realised that I had been so busy with my daily work that I had almost forgotten the basic principle of learning to live happily. I was impressed by the attitude of not only pursuing scientific and technological development, but also building a society where people can live in harmony with a diverse range of people. In Thai education, even if you fall outside the mainstream, there are many environments that allow you to continue learning in other paths.

★ School visits (Nakhon Pathom province)
Many of the students had bright smiles on their faces in a spontaneous atmosphere, even at the so called 'progressive' schools. The grounds are vast and the facilities are excellent, but the best thing is that the curriculum is meticulously organised based on the characteristics and interests of the students. I thought the attitude of all the schools to accept and nurture students as human beings, without regard to gender, ethnicity or religion, was very impressive. The emphasis on lifelong education was also impressive.



Learning from the training

★ Broader perspectives and encounters
The good thing about this programme is that it gives you the opportunity to see things from a broader perspective. By meeting many people, listening to their thoughts and sharing them with each other, you can warm up and gain energy. The days of this programme were a condensation of exactly these elements. I was able to think about the questions and challenges I had felt while working as a teacher comparing with the context of the Thai education setting and gain many new perspectives.

★ "Live happily as a person".
The Thai people have a very different attitude to diversity from those in the West or Japan, and although I was only there for a week, I felt a depth of nostalgia that cannot be expressed by the word 'openness'. They did not exclude or give special treatment to those who were different from them, but treated them as human beings. Such an honest attitude is also well reflected in school education. I was impressed by the country's efforts to create a curriculum that is flexible and tailored to individual needs, and to provide support on a national level, so that everyone can live happily, without being overly bound by rules.



Action plan for return of learning

Subjects and objectives

Target group: Teachers and staff of the school, people close to the school

To learn about Thai culture and customs, gain new knowledge and broaden their horizons. To provide an opportunity to think about education in Japan and to consider future exchange plans together.

Target: Students of my school
To meet and interact with people living in Asian countries, to raise awareness of being a member of the Asian region and to develop an attitude of building friendly relations. To provide an opportunity to learn about the differences between Thailand and Japan and to think about what a better society is and what kind of way of life is desirable. To provide an opportunity to consider what they should learn and how they should act as leaders in order to contribute to creating a better society.



Method

1

Target group: Teachers and staff of the school, people close to the school.
Training reports are shared multiple times in written and video form to communicate the outcome of the programme.
The school will provide opportunities for in-school training in the form of presentations in the class of exploratory studies, etc., to communicate and share the outcome of the programme. (Implemented)

2

Target: Students of my school
• Hold debriefing sessions in English classes. Explain the programme by using slides and let students present what they felt and thought based upon my explanation. (Implemented)

3

Target: Students, teachers and staff of my school
Exchange messages with Thai students in classes, club activities, etc. Introduce oneself and engage in cultural exchange through Padlet and actual greeting card exchanges.

4

Target: Students, teachers and staff of my school.
Online cultural exchange with Thai students in classes and club activities.
Online information exchange with Thai students on inquiry learning.

5

Target: Students, teachers and staff of the school.
Invite teachers, staff and students from Thailand to visit our school and interact with them. Or our teachers, staff and students visit Thai schools.



Expected outcome

- Students can confirm the results of their daily English learning through practical exchanges and recognise challenges, which may further motivate them to learn English.
- Students can meet diverse people, learn tolerance for diversity and social skills, and increase their awareness of themselves as leaders who contribute to their communities and their country.
- Both students and staff can enjoy themselves and deepen their understanding of different cultures.
- Both students and staff have the opportunity to reconsider Japanese education and learn new perspectives from Thai education.



HAPPY LEARNING.



Education for Academic
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of life