

Faculty Visit Invitation Letter

Date: 12 May 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

We are pleased to invite staff and students from Huaibei Normal University (HBNU), China, to participate in a faculty visit at Bath Spa University (BSU) from 21st to 25th July 2025. This visit aims to strengthen the collaborative relationship between our institutions through a series of academic and cultural engagements.

We would like to invite the below list of visitors:

No.	Name	Gender	Date of Birth	I.D. Number	Unit and Position
1	Zhao	Male	25/10/1980	370682198010	Vice Dean of School of Education,
1	Xiaoyun			254416	Huaibei Normal University
2	Yan Yan	Female	25/01/1969	340602196901	Professor of School of Education,
2				251423	Huaibei Normal University
	Wang Yu	Female	26/12/1990	370782199012 264300	Deputy Chief of Special Education
3					Section of School of Education,
					Huaibei Normal University

Visit Details:

Purpose of Visit: Participation in academic discussions, campus tours, and collaborative meetings to explore potential partnerships in education programs and research initiatives.

Duration of Stay and Travel: The proposed dates the 5-day faculty visit are 21st July 2025 to 25th July 2025.

Accommodation: Advised by Bath Spa University for the duration of the visit but arranged by HBNU visitors themselves or their home institution.

Funding: Bath Spa University will cover some expenses (e.g., venues and some catering) during the official program dates. Expenses for travel expenses,

accommodation and any other additional costs will be the responsibility of the visitors or their home institution.

Itinerary Overview:

Day 1 (21/5/2025): Arrival and Settle in accommodation.

Day 2 (22/5/2025): Leaders' greetings, strategic discussions (i.e., EdD and PhD programs, Special Educational Needs; and Early Childhood Education), and campus tour.

Day 3 (23/05/2025): Graduation ceremony tour and local visits to alternative SEN related provision.

Day 4 (24/05/2025): Research partnership meetings, future collaboration and next steps.

Day 5 (25/05/24): Departure.

For a detailed itinerary, please refer to the attached program document in the appendix 1.

Visa Information:

Visitors are required to obtain a Standard Visitor Visa to participate in this program. This visa permits individuals to engage in academic activities, attend meetings, and participate in educational programs in the UK. For comprehensive information on the Standard Visitor Visa, including application procedures and required documentation, please visit the <u>UK</u> <u>Government's official website</u>.

Please note that visa issuance is at the discretion of the UK Home Office. We recommend that visitors apply well in advance of their intended travel dates to allow sufficient processing time.

Contact Information:

Should you require further information or assistance regarding the visit or visa application process, please contact:

Name: Chloe Shu-Hua Yeh (Senior Lecturer of Education) Contact: c.yeh@bathspa.ac.uk; +44 1225875367 Name: Dr Nataylia Rumyantseva (Subject Leader in Education (Partnerships and Employability) Contact: n.rumyantseva@bathspa.ac.uk; +441225875593

We look forward to welcoming our esteemed colleagues from Huaibei Normal University to Bath Spa University for this enriching and collaborative experience.

Sincerely,

Jan Smaka

John Strachan Pro-Vice-Chancellor Research and Enterprise • Research & Enterprise Bath Spa University Newton Park Bath, BA2 9BN United Kingdom j.strachan@bathspa.ac.uk +441225876292

Appendix 1

Bath Spa University - 5-Day Faculty Visit Schedule - Huaibei Normal University (HBNU), China

Proposed Dates: 21-25 July 2025

Day 1 Arrival and settle into accommodation Day 2 Bath Spa University, Newton Park Campus Morning Welcome and Introduction Morning • Leaders' Greetings and Strategic Discussions • Discussion on Summer Schools (2026), UK Staff Teaching Visits to HBNU (2025/26), and Potential 3+1 Undergraduate and 1+1 master's Programme Partnerships (2026/27 or 2027/28) Lunch Break Afternoon BSU provision overview • Overview of SEN, Early Childhood Studies and EdD Programme and PhD Supervision potential at BSU • BSU Campus Tour including Research Facilities, Learning Spaces, and Student Support Services • Informal Networking and Q&A Session Morning BSU Graduation experience Morning SU Graduation experience Morning Observing the Graduation Process and Ceremonial Traditions followed by attending the Graduation Social Event Afternoon SEN Social Enterprise Visit • Visit to a Creative SEN Social Enterprise • Visit to a Creative SEN Social Enterprise • Visit to a Creative SEN Social Enterprise • Reflection and Discussion on visit	Time	Schedule				
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 Afternoon Visit to a Creative SEN Social Enterprise Reflection and Discussion on visit 	Morning	Observing the Graduation Process and Ceremonial Traditions				
Reflection and Discussion on visit						
Day / Bath Sna University, Newton Park Campus	Afternoon					
Day 4 Dati Spa Oniversity, Newton Fark Campus						
Research and Teaching Partnership Meetings		Research and Teaching Partnership Meetings				
 Morning SEN and Disability Research project (e.g., We are the people project) Research in Early Childhood Studies Exploring Joint Research and Funding Opportunities Lunch break 	Morning	 Exploring Joint Research and Funding Opportunities 				
Future collaboration and next steps						
Afternoon Identify strategies for Research and Teaching Partnership	Afternoon	Identify strategies for Research and Teaching Partnership				
Day 5						
Departure						