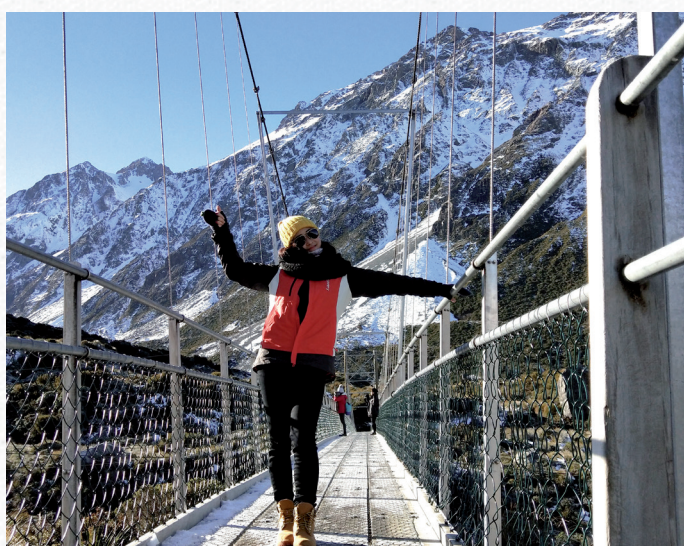


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## CHRISTCHURCH GROWING DESTINATION FOR NZTC INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

With recent changes to post-study work visas incentivising study outside of Auckland, the Garden City's international student community looks set to grow.



Christchurch-based NZTC Graduate Diploma in Teaching graduate Lola Zhou on a weekend trip to Mount Cook

New Zealand Tertiary College (NZTC) Marketing Manager Sanil Haria spoke to a packed audience of prospective students at the Christchurch Campus Open Day on 22 August.

He said interest in studying in New Zealand's third largest city was growing rapidly.

"The international community is becoming more aware of the benefits of studying in Christchurch, due to the safety, relaxed lifestyle and natural beauty offered by the South Island city," Sanil said.

Recently proposed post-study work visa changes for international students studying outside of Auckland are also likely to encourage the spread of international talent throughout the regions.

Coming into effect on 26 November 2018, the changes are intended to support the attraction of international students studying at higher levels and to preserve a pathway to residency for those with the skills and qualifications New Zealand needs, according to 8 August 2018 article on the Immigration New Zealand website.

The visa changes will include incentives for international students to study outside Auckland.

International students from all over the world choose to study New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) approved Early Childhood Education programs with NZTC in Christchurch.

NZTC graduate Lola Zhou was surprised at how peaceful the city was when she moved there from China to study her Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Early Childhood Education).

“It is just so easy to be happy here, even if you have a bad day. Study becomes an enjoyment when you can look at the sea through the window, it is such a beautiful experience.”

– NZTC Graduate Diploma in Teaching graduate Lola Zhou

With breathtaking street art, innovative projects and state-of-the-art architecture, the self-described 'garden city' is a global destination for those seeking a more relaxed lifestyle.

NZTC student Ritu Giroti, originally from India, said, "What I appreciate about Christchurch is its beauty, it really is a beautiful place to live. People are also really nice, loving and caring and always willing to help."

Christchurch locals enjoy an excellent work-life balance, spending their spare time exploring surrounding mountains and beaches or relaxing in the city's vibrant new cafes.

Often described as the gateway to the South Island, residents are also within easy reach of the towering Southern Alps and tourism hot-spots of Queenstown, Wanaka and Milford Sound.

NZTC International Marketing Officer Tarol Kan said international students are thriving in Christchurch.

"International students get great value out of NZTC's flexible learning modes, which enable them to become fully immersed in New Zealand's culture while also gaining valuable work experience."

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## CHINESE STUDENT'S JOURNEY FROM ENFORCEMENT TO EDUCATION

If you'd asked twenty-year old Eddy Wang what he'd be doing in ten years, he would never have predicted the life he is living now.

A "magical" self-driven honeymoon across the South Island in 2017 led Eddy and his wife, Phoebe, to question their lives and for Eddy, his job as a Police Officer in China.

Fascinated with the "quiet yet vibrant" atmosphere of Christchurch and a dream of making a positive difference, the couple returned down-under with Eddy enrolling in a Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Early Childhood Education) with New Zealand Tertiary College (NZTC).



*Eddy Wang as a Police Officer in China*

"I had experience teaching children different musical instruments in a part-time job and I loved communicating with, observing and interacting with little musicians," Eddy said.

"However, I had also found it difficult to plan classes to perfectly fit the needs of children in different age groups. So this was another motive, to understand the secret of education for young explorers."

A year after moving to New Zealand, Eddy is thriving as an international NZTC student in Christchurch. He and his wife have settled into the laid-back lifestyle spending spare time fishing or hiking.

"Life in Christchurch is quieter, cleaner, and generally easier," he said.

A big part of his positive experience has been constant support from the NZTC team and a "strong sense of belonging".

"The lecturers and student support at NZTC are absolutely amazing," Eddy said. "My advice to other international students is to never be afraid or feel ashamed to ask questions, because at the end of the day, the college is there to support you in any way they can."

Importantly, working in early childhood education has enabled Eddy to make the positive difference he sought. He illustrates this with a story of a three-year old girl at his home centre struggling to get used to the new environment.

"I started to build a relationship with her and while it took a lot of time and energy, it was worth it as I witnessed her social emotional development, and we eventually became friends," he said.

“ My heart was warmed when her whānau (family) told me she'd often talk about me and the activities we did at home. She was no longer shy or grumpy when she arrived, instead running towards me asking for a cuddle. ”

"When she left, her mother gave me a card expressing appreciation for the warm influence I had on her daughter. Becoming a teacher is both fulfilling and rewarding."



*Eddy Wang teaching at his centre in Christchurch*

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## MEET NZTC IN INDIA AND SOUTH EAST ASIA THIS SEPTEMBER

New Zealand Tertiary College (NZTC)'s International Enrolments Team will travel to the Philippines, Malaysia and India this September to meet with valued education partners and prospective students.



Senior Marketing Manager – Sanil Haria

Senior Marketing Manager Sanil Haria is looking forward to providing support and information to NZTC's international community as the college's network continues to grow.

The trip follows recent government changes to post-study work visa rights in New Zealand.

"These changes will open exciting new opportunities regarding post-study employment in New Zealand for future international students," Sanil said.

"I am excited to share these changes as well as the great opportunities NZTC offers international students with our educational partners and prospective students."

If you'd like to meet with Sanil during this time, please contact him at [sanil.haria@nztertiarycollege.ac.nz](mailto:sanil.haria@nztertiarycollege.ac.nz)

Cities	Dates
Cebu	16-20 September
Manila	20-23 September
Kuala Lumpur	23-26 September
Kuching	26-29 September
Mumbai	1-5 October

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**35** ANNIVERSARY  
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