

English Programmes China

TILE project: clarifications

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Clarifications

Should any parties wish to access the In Class platform to trial its content please contact qianyi.shi@britishcouncil.org.cn for a test account.

In order to support accurate planning for the TILE project we have included some additional information received from the partner in relation to the groups, and added additional information related to FAQs we have received.

- This is an entirely new UK-China partnership and as such the logistics are strongly led by the China partner's capacity and direction.

The partner has confirmed the final arrangement and preferred support structure from a China standpoint. Key points:

- The 66 leaders are included with the 1,000 participants. So, 1,000 in total.
- 66 include: 47 team leaders for 47 groups and 19 researchers
- There are 47 groups in total, into which are assigned all 1,000 participants (with the exception of 19 researchers).

The Team Leaders for the 47 groups are 'excellent' teachers selected by the partner based on classroom performance. They will also technically be participants within the project in addition to leading their team, with the addition of planned support from the UK and China partners. The local partner has now clarified the following allocation of the total 66 leaders:

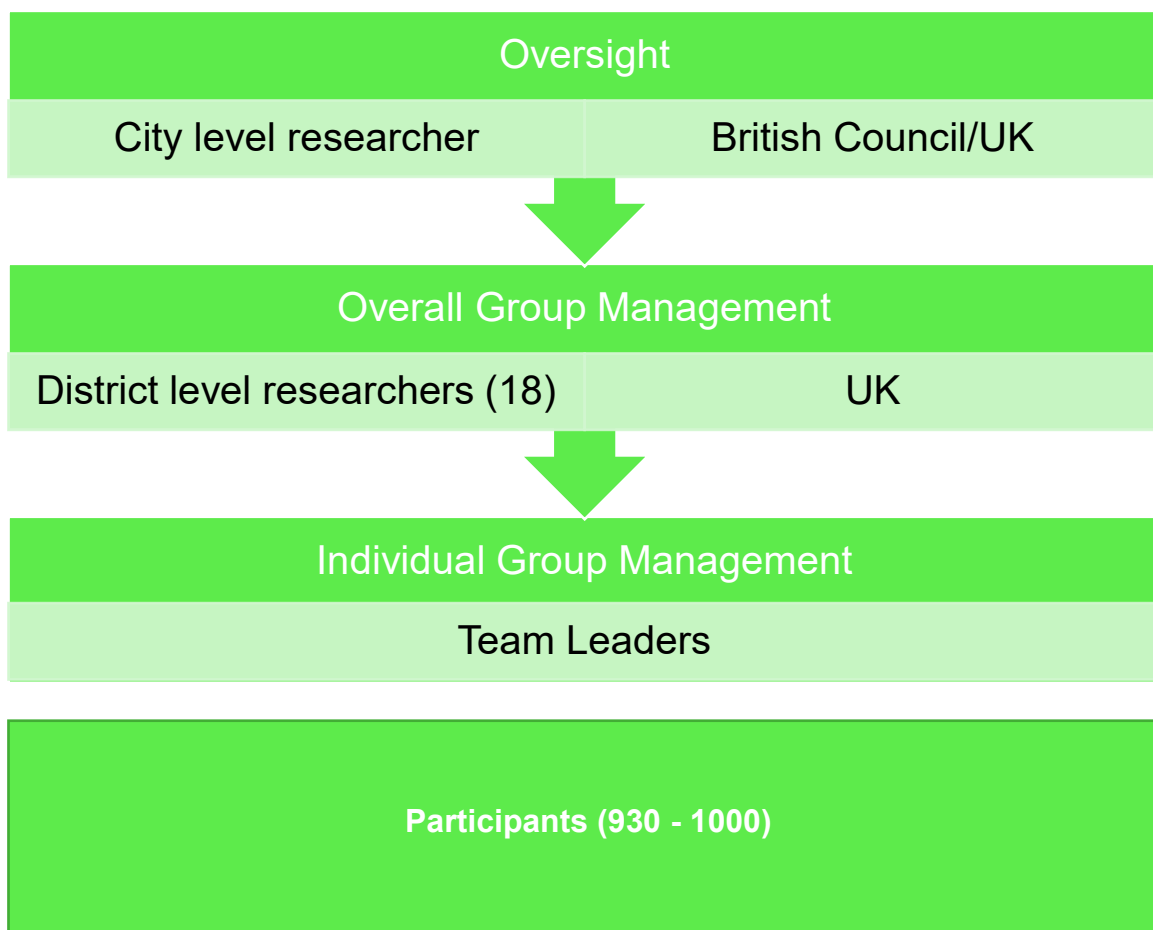
- **The 66 leaders will be employed in a hierarchical pyramid structure, in parallel with the UK activity, within the final project design.**
 - All 66 will take part in the initial UK training to ensure they are all up to speed and have the same starting point. Of the 66, the breakdown is confirmed as:
 - 47 'team leaders' will support, share input with teachers, and ensure tasks are allocated within each of the 47 groups. They are the direct contact for teachers in their group. They are also regarded as participants within the total number. (47/66)
 - Above the 47 groups there are 18 district level teacher researchers who provide daily support to the team leaders in their groups. They will be allocated 1-3 groups to support related to geography (According to the partner there will be 14 teacher researchers who manage 3 groups ; 1 teacher research who manages 2 groups ; 3 teacher researchers who manage 1 group.) Their role is mainly administrative, and as they carry weight within the education system to ensure all tasks are completed. They may also be a regular/daily contact for academic and admin issues for the team

leaders as part of the project support network, where the UK side is not available. (18/66)

- The project will be fully overseen by one city level researcher (1/66) for junior high.

For the UK team's regular support of leaders (e.g., regular TAGs for the 66) these can be arranged into manageable number through combination of the groups. It is intended that planned ongoing leader support sessions will include all 66 participants divided by x number of support groups and be held by the UK side.

Researchers and team leaders may require their own separate meetings and communication in L1. This can also be suggested in the UK project design as part of the model where it would have most benefit along with any mechanisms for reporting back to the UK side.



- It was not possible to conduct language tests on the participants and therefore we cannot confirm individual language levels, but they all have English language teaching experience or are researchers in this area.
- Having Mandarin support attached to the UK team is strongly recommended. The platforms being used are entirely China specific and may not have full English language support for all functionality. Some participant submissions, including survey responses,

tasks or comments, may not be in English. The British Council can only provide limited support in this regard. Offering tasks in bilingual form would also support engagement, where possible.


- The 47 groups will be assigned geographically and the participants, team leader and researchers may know each other.
- The NA will define how much teachers feel they are able to do each week, and this will inform the quantity and content of SAL. However, as a ballpark figure for the purposes of planning it is expected that both leaders and participants will realistically commit between 3 - 4 hours.
- Teacher researchers were selected by the partner based on availability and seniority within the education system, therefore there was no defined criteria. Their role profile will, to some extent, be outlined by the project design, but it is expected that they will support teacher leaders and participants through motivation and encouragement, administratively and logistically and to a lesser extent academically to fill in areas or issues that the UK team does not have capacity for. E.g., supporting through instant message between planned UK-China support sessions; attending groups sessions to offer support in L1, etc
- The webinars should be held within the planned 18 weeks, or immediately after project completion (the final webinar) if more preparation time is required.

Needs Analysis

- The NA is hoped to cover more than the 1,000 teachers to base content selection on a wider range of input.
- Clarification of '*a detachable summary of the general English teacher classroom language context amongst English teachers*': The NA will inform the project content but this form and area of investigation will also capture information on teacher language use/confidence and to some extent level, hence there is an opportunity for a unique snapshot of the teacher context that could be shared elsewhere. Basically, by 'detachable' it is meant that the NA report should have section summarising the teacher current context in relation to teachers' English classroom use that can be shared independently.

Reporting

- Normally reports are to be submitted within 30 days of project completion. This can be negotiated if deemed insufficient due to the number of reports.
- The UK partner will join regular progress meetings with the British Council to ensure the project is moving forward as planned. The British Council can also support with clarifications from the partner leadership, some translation, and general support

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- The British Council will be the primary liaison with the China partner leadership. The UK's role is primarily delivery, MEL and reporting.

Should any further queries not be answered here please do get in touch to clarify.