



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

E-mail request

Our ref: ATISN 15827
21 January 2022

Dear

ATISN 15827 – Wales China Education Links

Thank you for your request which I received on 22 December 2021. You asked for the following information:

- 1) How many trips to China have been organised for head teachers, senior school leaders and teachers (with the associated costs)?
- 2) How many events have the Welsh Government organised with the Confucius Institutes in Wales (including Chinese festivals, other cultural events and more)
- 3) Could I get a list of meetings that Welsh Government officials and ministers have had with the Confucius Institute since 2016.
- 4) What discussions have Ministers had regarding where Confucius Institutes receive their funding from?
- 5) How much funding has Welsh Government given to Confucius Institutes in Wales?

I have set out at Annex 1, my response to each of your questions.

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely

Q1 - How many trips to China have been organised for head teachers, senior school leaders and teachers (with the associated costs)?

No information held.

Q2 - How many events have the Welsh Government organised with the Confucius Institutes in Wales (including Chinese festivals, other cultural events and more)

Eight events since 2016. Five Chinese New Year events and three Mid-Autumn Festivals.

Q3 - Could I get a list of meetings that Welsh Government officials and ministers have had with the Confucius Institute since 2016.

Meeting with Officials

17 January 2019	Visit to Bangor University Confucius Institute to discuss the draft International Strategy
08 March 2019	Meeting with University of Wales Trinity St David Confucius Institute to discuss the draft International Strategy
14 February 2020	Wales China Schools Forum event for Welsh Schools who have Confucius Classrooms
29 June 2020	Meeting between Welsh Government and Welsh Confucius Institutes to discuss the practicality of delivering additional Mandarin language training in Welsh schools.
07 September 2021	Routine meeting between Welsh Government and Cardiff Confucius Institute and discussion on the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival.

Meeting with Ministers

25 January 2019	Visit to Bangor University Confucius Institute to discuss the draft International Strategy
9 June 2020	Call between the Minister for International Relations and Welsh Language and the University of Wales Trinity St David Confucius Institute to discuss the work of the Confucius Institutes in Wales.

Q4 - What discussions have Ministers had regarding where Confucius Institutes receive their funding from?

No information held.

Q5 - How much funding has Welsh Government given to Confucius Institutes in Wales?

Welsh Government funds the Confucius Institute China Schools Programme via the British Council as part of its International Education Programme grant. The table below shows the funding provided since 2016:

2016-17	£45,000
2017-18	£45,000
2018-19	£45,000
2019-20	£45,000
2020-21	£36,000
2021-22	£36,000