



Press release

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NZ EDUCATION TRAVEL LINKS WITH SOUTHERN CHINA STRENGTHENED

Education New Zealand and China Southern Airlines have signed a Statement of Intent (Sol) on working together for the benefit of students.

During the Prime Minister's visit to Guangzhou yesterday, Education New Zealand's Chief Executive, Grant McPherson, and China Southern Airlines President and Chief Executive, Tan Wangeng, signed a Statement of Intent to investigate prospects for student-related cooperation.

"These could include such things as joint promotion and marketing efforts to encourage students and their families to travel between Auckland and Guangzhou" said ENZ CE Grant McPherson. "Each year around 10,000 young people from Southern China, and the city of Guangzhou in particular, are enrolled in New Zealand's primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. New Zealand is highly regarded in China as offering top-quality education in a safe and friendly environment".

The Statement of Intent formalises a relationship between Education New Zealand and China Southern Airlines, one of the world's largest airlines. This month China Southern celebrates two years of direct Guangzhou – Auckland flights.

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Education New Zealand is the New Zealand Government's international education agency that supports and promotes New Zealand education overseas. China is New Zealand's largest source of international students, attracting over 24,000 fee-paying students to New Zealand in 2012.