

SIN China Builds Closer Ties through Space Science Education

SIN China’s previous work¹ promoting the National Space Academy (NSA) model in China has succeeded in the creation of a UK-China Space Education and Space Culture Centre. This Centre aims to develop international partnerships, as well as to continue to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers in both the UK and China to help boost economic productivity.

With the support of the Secretary-General of the China National Space Administration an MOU between the National Space Academy and a Chinese Education consortium was signed in Edinburgh in September 2017 creating the new Centre. The Centre will help grow the NSA model of direct and online space education throughout China. A



key feature will be British and Chinese students working together in summer schools, and include visits to the Beijing Astronaut Training Centre as well as to launch sites in China. The school curriculum will also benefit from children designing science



experiments to be conducted on board Chinese spacecraft. In addition to the commercial outcomes the NSA aims to achieve in China, the range of activity carried out by the Centre will further enrich the bilateral relationship in space science between China and the UK for the economic benefit of both countries. It will also provide

an important platform for space related UK organisations to engage with potential Chinese partners.

By developing relationships with key decision makers in China’s space sector and supporting the National Space Academy (based in Leicester, UK) SIN China was able to ensure that there was direct interest in both China and the UK for the creation of this new Centre. The Centre was also one of many high profile science collaborations showcased at the Royal Society during the Science and Innovation Forum of the UK-China People to People Dialogue on 6 December.

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¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sin-china-launches-space-science-in-schools>