



Introduction to Stepping Stones

Stepping Stones

Non-profit organization registered in Shanghai

Recruits, trains, coordinates, and support
1000+ volunteers each year

Offer volunteers a rewarding way to give back to
society



Stepping Stones' Ethos

Our Vision:

- Equal access to quality education and general welfare for all children in China

Our Mission:

- To improve the education and general welfare of disadvantaged children in China



Program Objectives

- Increase students' confidence and self-esteem;
- Optimize students' access to better quality education and work opportunities in the future;
- Connect communities to promote inter-cultural understanding;
- Promote responsible and high impact volunteering.



How Stepping Stones Started

**Students'
needs**



**Volunteers'
passion**

Stepping Stones' History



- Oct 2006: 3 volunteers teaching English in 1 school
- 2008: Training started; First I Care project
- 2009: First Summer Program; First paid employee & office
- 2010: Started to develop curriculum
- 2011: Registration in Hong Kong
- 2012: Funding from Shanghai Soong Ching Ling Foundation
- 2013: Officially registered non-profit in Shanghai Minhang District
- 2015: Teacher Training Program started
- 2016: Digital Literacy & Videolink programs launched
- 2018: Founder received British Empire Medal
- 2020: Launched Home Classroom program
- 2023: Launched Social Emotional Learning program
- 2023: Achieved 3A status for a non-profit in China

Why do the children need us?

- Though schools have improved, many students are still under-served
- Students benefit from the exposure to different communities and ideas – volunteers benefit too!

Why teach English?

- English is one of three core subjects in the curriculum, and the biggest differentiator between rural/migrant and urban children
- Qualified teachers are in short supply and the quality of teaching is low



Why teach digital literacy & life skills?

- Children lack confidence (especially about their future)
- Low rate of digital literacy

Why teach social emotional learning?

- Children's unattended emotional issues have become commonplace among children, especially after Covid pandemic
- Intervention rate is low in schools

Why focus on eye care?

- Eye problems go untreated due to lack of resources and misunderstanding of issues
- Vision problems can seriously impact education



Monitoring & Evaluation



We carry out our own quantitative and qualitative research about the effectiveness of our programs.

Impact reports shared on website.

Impact results include:

- Increase in exam results
- Increase in interest & confidence
- Bridging communities
- Teaching altruism



Expectations



What you can expect from us:



**A deeply rewarding
experience!**

- To treat you with **RESPECT**
- Provide you with clear and comprehensive **INFORMATION** about your role as a volunteer, your duties and responsibilities
- **SUPPORT** you (as much as possible) and equip you with the resources & skills necessary to fulfill your role
- Recognize your achievement and **APPRECIATE** your contribution

What we expect from you?

- **RESPECT** towards the children, fellow volunteers, staff and community members
- Serious **COMMITMENT** to volunteering
- Be open to constructive **FEEDBACK** from us and provide us with feedback on how to improve our programs
- Request for support or clarification if you are unsure about something



Enjoy volunteering!