



AEGIS: fondest memories and respect

Anthony Millard, Executive Chairman AMC

I was briefly General Secretary of AEGIS from 2001 while transitioning from headship and politics to the business world of education. Guiding AEGIS was both a pleasure and a privilege.

With the support of some wonderful AEGIS stalwarts such as Andrew Sutherland, Danice Iles and Mark Brooks I set about the path to modernization. One of my best moves was to appoint Janet Bowman, my former PA and Headmaster's Secretary at Wycliffe College, to become AEGIS's administrative officer. Her charm and enthusiasm was a central plank in AEGIS success for more than a decade. AEGIS today is a very modern organisation serving a critical and growing aspect of the UK's success in the global knowledge economy. Well done Yasemin Wigglesworth and the team!

I left AEGIS to take on the role of managing director of Nord Anglia Schools. This paved the way for me to launch Anthony Millard Consulting (AMC) in 2004. We specialise in executive search/recruitment for leadership posts in top schools both in the UK and internationally. We also provide strategic advice to schools, educational businesses and organizations.

As a headmaster I concluded all my governors' reports with the words that I remained "cautiously optimistic" and have no doubt in applying this to AEGIS today! You have successfully navigated accreditation and compliance, your voice is listened to (perhaps not enough!) on issues such as safeguarding. I remain convinced by both the business potential of global education and the noble cause of internationalism. AEGIS is needed more than ever and I wish you all success for the future.

www.anthonymillard.co.uk
www.amcteacher.co.uk

New AEGIS Trustee, Elodie Vallantine

I attended my first AGM in London in April this year and have been impressed by the care and commitment of AEGIS to provide the best for our international students.

I have been Acting Principal in Moira House Girls School since January 2017. I joined the school in 2014 as Deputy Principal. Prior to this, I was Assistant Head at an independent school for 5 years, as well as being Chair of Governors of a primary school in London for 4 years. I obtained a degree in English Language and Literature in France, prior to completing my PGCE at the University of Roehampton.

Educated in France and in England, I have first-hand experience of two very different educational systems and I can empathise with our international students and their experiences away from home. I am looking forward to making a difference as a trustee for AEGIS.



Studying at your homestay host's home

Living Learning English (LLE) interviews one of their Guardianship pupils, Sam, to explore the beneficial aspects for pupils in staying with a homestay host who is also a qualified teacher of English.

Why did you choose to study in the UK and what course are you studying?

I am now doing my GCSEs. I came to the UK to improve my English, especially my speaking and writing.

How did your LLE 1:1 homestay English course help you prepare for school?

I was very happy with the course, and we focused on my speaking and writing as those are the areas I need to improve in.

How has your host family being a teacher helped you?

I think it is really helpful because I feel more supported and understood. If I have a problem with my everyday use of the English, my host family can always help.



Achieving success for international students with dyslexia

Muhammad* has dyslexia and came to live and learn at Priory Education and Children's Services' Mark College, Somerset in 2014 at the age of 15. As a student from Saudi Arabia, Muhammad's parents wanted him to study in a Specialist Educational Needs (SEN) school in England where dyslexia was understood and his needs were met.

THE REFERRAL PROCESS

The referral process included Skype calls between the school, Muhammad and his family, as well as a face-to-face meeting at Mark College. Muhammad also attended the college for a trial period of three days.

ACHIEVING POSITIVE OUTCOMES

Whilst in Saudi Arabia, Muhammad struggled with exams due to his dyslexia and lack of correct support. Mark College provided the right teaching techniques and environments which helped to develop his confidence. Muhammad also excelled in a variety of sports provided by the College and was nominated for the prestigious national 'young achievers award' by the Dallaglio Foundation.

Since leaving Mark College last year, Muhammad has gone on to study Level 2 Engineering at Oxford Tutorial College.

GET IN TOUCH

To find out more about our Priory Education and Children's Services schools and colleges which support young people from around the world with a variety of conditions including autism, please call +44 (0)208 108 5170 or email InternationalEducation@priorygroup.com.

*Name changed to protect identity



Fulneck School's Seismology Studies Recognised by British Council

Fulneck School, Leeds has been awarded foundation level of the British Council's prestigious International School Award. The award was in recognition for the work of Fulneck's highly-regarded Physics department's earthquake measuring project - which, over the last three years - has received major European Union funding via the Erasmus+ programme. Working closely with three other schools in the UK, France and Italy, Fulneck pupils visited their peers to develop low cost, reliable seismometers to be used by schools in Kenya.



Berkhamsted teacher's skydive to raise money for Teenage Cancer Trust in memory of former student



When Roland Maxted, a Religion and Philosophy teacher at Berkhamsted School, Hertfordshire, set himself the challenge of fundraising for Teenage Cancer Trust, he aimed to raise around £1200 in memory of former student Isabelle Docherty. With the total now above £7,800 it is thought to be the most successful individual fundraising campaign in the School's 476 year history.

Leighton Park School - Intermediate Maths Challenge

Soyoung (Sophie) Park is a weekly boarder in Year 11 who joined Leighton Park School, Reading from Korea last September. In February, Year 9, 10 and 11 mathematicians took part in the annual Intermediate Maths Challenge run by United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT). Sophie has been invited to a summer training maths camp organised by the University of Oxford as a result of her outstanding mathematic ability in the competition.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROFILES



Patty Chai, Moira House

I came to Moira House Girls School, East Sussex from China in Year 10 to take my GCSE's. I then continued on to Sixth Form. I am aspiring to study Computer Science while taking Physics, Maths, and Further Maths. I hope to attend University College London (UCL).

My life at Moira House has been the key to success. Academically, my teachers have always supported me and encouraged me to push myself. As a boarder, I feel safe, respected and nurtured. In addition to the academic side of life, I have plenty of opportunities to relax and enjoy time with my friends.

Reginald Chong, Walden School

Reginald Chong (or Reggie as he affectionately became known) is a former pupil at Walden School, Essex, who has since returned to his native Hong Kong.

"When I first arrived, I wanted to hide in my room because I was scared that people might think that my English wasn't good enough. I soon realised that there were plenty of people who wanted to help me. Staff and students got to know my name, and I quickly made friends".

Reggie joined Walden School in Year 9, and threw himself into school life, making full use of the wealth of clubs and activities on offer to both boarding and day pupils.

Reggie went on to study Business Management at King's College, London, and after graduating returned home to take up the reigns of a very successful, large family business. Reggie has also become an ambassador for overseas education in Hong Kong, working at many British Council events and delivering seminars promoting a British education.



Immersion programme at St John's College a success

At the start of the academic term St John's College, Southsea welcomed a group of eight Junior School-age children from The Chaoyang Experimental Primary School in Beijing, China. With little English and no experience of education in the UK, the children were naturally anxious about their time at St John's College.

Now, in the final term of the year-long immersion programme the children are confident, conscientious and happy learners. They live together in the Junior Boarding House with other boys and girls, and take part in all the various activities and school trips that occur during the week and at weekends.

Mr Tony Shrubbsall, Head of the Junior School comments, "Not only have the Chinese students learned about the UK, they have shared their own cultures and traditions with our pupils – who have been very receptive, and welcoming. Their level of English is excellent and I have no doubt they will continue to thrive when they return to Beijing in July."



St. Mary's, Shaftesbury - Talented dancers step on stage

St Mary's Shaftesbury's annual Dance Showcase is a real highlight of each year. The Showcase is also one of many creative opportunities for our international students to shine. As well as ballet, tap, jazz and modern dance, the audience was treated to Flamenco, Irish and traditional Chinese dance. Rehearsals and preparation for the show required a great deal of hard work and dedication, and nearly 40 girls took part.



Reflections on 40 years in international education, Caroline Hugo

As I reflect over the 40 years, I can see that there were two significant factors throughout the period, both of which are active today. One being the requirement for increased multilingualism in Europe ('mother tongue plus two' to satisfy the Council of Europe) and the other being the commercialization of independent schools.

Looking back on the attitudes to language learning I experienced when I arrived in my first teaching post at one of Greece's top independent schools in 1978, things were very different to what I had experienced in the UK. There was an unquestionable confidence in the ability of children to master languages. Children started early (pre-school) and went on to learn two languages to approximately B1 level by the end of junior school. The experience of working in two of the best independent schools in Athens convinced me that children could learn multiple languages quickly and well and that we must never underestimate their innate ability to do so.

On returning to the UK in 1985, the adult ELT industry was in full swing, the junior summer course sector was shaping up and independent schools were starting to admit more overseas pupils. At that time in the independent school sector, catering for the needs of overseas pupils was in its infancy with no blueprint to follow.

Now, the establishment of organisations such as BAISIS (www.baisis.org.uk) bring together the wealth of knowledge and experience that exists within the sector in order to support those who are responsible for overseas pupils. The growth in the commercial nature of independent schools has seen 59 satellite schools open overseas. Hopefully all we have learnt over the last 30 or so years will ensure the future success of the British brand of education.

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News

- We would like to congratulate Alpha Guardians, UKGuardianship Ltd and Icon Education, for recently gaining AEGIS accreditation. AEGIS also operates re-accreditation inspections every four years for current AEGIS Guardianship Organisation members. Congratulations to Living Learning English and Bright World Guardianships for gaining re-accreditation.
- Following the success of our Basic Safeguarding Awareness course in February 2017, AEGIS is running a Designated Safeguarding Lead training course on Friday 9th June 2017 in London. Anne-Marie Christian, an NSPCC Accredited, and Department for Education Accredited Trainer, will be conducting the training www.annmariechristian.com. Please contact Elaine for details via elaine@aegisuk.net. Further opportunities for Safeguarding training at both levels will be offered by AEGIS during the next academic year.
- Yasemin attended the BAISIS Conference in March 2017 and gave a presentation on the importance of good Guardianship. AEGIS looks forward to working more closely with BAISIS in the future. www.baisis.org.uk
- In April 2017, AEGIS hosted a meeting with Neil Carmichael MP and Chair of the Education Select Committee, and other key figures in international education. They put across their concerns regarding international student numbers in the UK and the potential capping of numbers. Neil Carmichael was sympathetic and receptive, and a follow-up meeting is being arranged for September 2017.
- AEGIS took part in a British Council agent training event at the end of April 2017. We hope this will be the start of a strong link with British Council. We recommend this website for information about UK education: <https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/>
- Yasemin will be attending Alphe UK 1-3 September 2017 and Alphe Frankfurt Secondary Focus 29 September – 1 October 2017. A presentation on Guardianship will be given to agents at the Frankfurt event. <http://www.studytravel.network/alphe>
- AEGIS will have a stand at British Boarding School Workshop 2-4 November 2017 so come along and say hello if you are passing. <http://www.bbsw.org.uk>

Thank you to all our member Schools and
Guardianship Organisations for your continued support.

 Follow us on Twitter @ukaegis

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