

OUR LEARNING PARTNER: THE ESSENTIAL LEARNING GROUP



The Essential Learning Group (ELG) and SCIS-HIS are in the third year of an expanding partnership to help children that struggle in school. ELG started working with SCIS-HIS nearly seven years ago and three years ago ELG opened a clinic on the SCIS Pudong Lower School campus. Currently, ELG can provide services at all five SCIS-HIS campuses, from Hangzhou to Shanghai.

ELG has a strong commitment to working with SCIS-HIS educators and families. The partnership means that SCIS-HIS students have additional resources to help with difficulties ranging from academic struggles, executive functioning, speech-language, motor skills, and more. ELG can also work closely with SCIS-HIS educators to develop strategies for meeting the needs of all students.

The following are some examples of the types of services provided by ELG:

- Classroom observations, consulting, and clinical and academic assessments to help understand why a child might be struggling and to develop specific recommendations for teachers and parents.
- Conducting free screenings for young children for speech-language skills, motor development, hearing, and vision.

This year ELG expects to screen 500 children at international schools around Shanghai. Screenings help identify young children at risk so strategies can be developed to help the children before major problems surface.

- Providing additional learning support for children who struggle with reading, writing, mathematics, working memory and concentration. Services can include one-on-one help, group programs, and computerized programs to complement services provided at school.
- Teaching social skills through the Fast Friends program for children that need help learning specific social skills such as making friends, resolving conflicts, and playing together.
- ELG provides traditional services such as speech-language therapy and occupational therapy for children that have delayed speech-language skills, delayed motor development skills, or issues with sensory processing. In addition, we can help address anxiety and other emotional issues that arise from time to time.
- ELG provides vision therapy, which is a combination of individual therapy to address vision problems and collaboration with parents and educators in accommodating vision needs.

Along with these services, ELG sponsors free monthly seminars in Puxi and Pudong (in our SCIS Lower School office), and provides talks to educators and parent groups. Additionally, ELG's co-founder, Monte Rosen, led the "Becoming a Love and Logic Parent" training for PAFA at the Hongqiao ECE during the 2011-12 school year.

This year, ELG is a proud partner with SCIS Hongqiao in our newest program which involves students from Hongqiao's IB program. Once a week, SCIS students host children from Creative Garden, our full day program for children whose needs cannot be met in typical schools. The Hongqiao students learn to help and make friends with children that are atypical while working towards their CAS hours goal. Watching the children interact has been a joy and one more indication of SCIS-HIS' "community" feeling.

ELG's services are available on all SCIS campuses and at other centers in Puxi and Pudong. Services can be available during school hours, evenings and Saturdays. ELG's partnership with SCIS-HIS includes a discount on ELG services.

To learn more, find us online at www.chinaelg.com. Please direct inquiries to inquiries@chinaelg.com, or call 86 21 5206-6273.

Photos Courtesy of ELG

