

Access to High School Program Field Trip report 2017 September 25-29

One month after kids went back to school, we went to visit our children who just entered high school, as well as those who are in second or third year.

Today we support 32 high school students:

- 13 in grade 10
- 7 in grade 11
- 21 in grade 12

In the countryside where those children live, attending high school means to move to the city. For many of them it is their second move. They often already left their village to enter middle school. At the time they just went back home by foot every weekend.



High schools are located further away in the main city of the county. Life expenses increase:

- Each school uses a different tracksuit as school uniform that children need to acquire.
- They have to find a place to live. When no dormitory is available, they usually rent a room at a local's house.
- They prepare their own meals weekdays and weekends

Dongxia, Boling and Honghong, who just entered highschool

They spend long hours in school and go back there after dinner for at least two hours of evening classes.

However despite these constraints and changes, all our high school students seem happy. Those who just entered high school are relieved they passed the entrance exam. Older pupils seem to cope rather well with the pressure from the highly competitive education system.

During our visit, we met headmasters as well as teachers of high schools where we have students for the first time. We wanted to consolidate what we believe is necessary for children's achievement and well-being: the combined support from their family, teachers and Children of Madaifu.



Bo, Dongliang and Yindi, the three of them are in their last year of high school.

We were pleased to see several children we support and who have known each other since Primary or Middle school – some were even together at our Summer Camp – choose to share accommodation. We took the opportunity of our visit to introduce those who just entered high school to those already in grade 11 or 12 and encourage them to support each other.



In Anyuan Highschool, Yue, Linyan, Pan and Chenzong in grade 10 and 11 with Anne de Kermadec and Li Yixi.