



STUDENT PROFILE

STUDENT NAME

Chujun Zhong

NATIONALITY

China

PROGRAMME

Graduate Diploma in
Teaching (ECE) (Level 7)

STUDY YEAR

2025

CAMPUS

NZTC Online



CHUJUN'S STORY

NZTC Student Success Story

Background

Hi, my name is Chujun and I'm from Guangdong, China. Before coming to New Zealand, I worked as a marketing management assistant, designing campaigns for children. I also volunteered teaching English to kids in rural areas. These experiences made me realise I wanted a more meaningful career—and that's when I decided to study Early Childhood Education. I'm now about to graduate from the Graduate Diploma in Teaching (ECE) at NZTC.

Why I Chose New Zealand

New Zealand's ECE qualification is globally recognised and respected. The curriculum here is also really flexible, which is great for like me who already have work experience. I believed this would be the best place to build a new professional path.

Why NZTC

I searched online and ***NZTC stood out to me because of its blended learning approach.*** It wasn't just about listening to lectures—it was about gaining real, hands-on experience. I could actually learn directly from experienced teachers in the centre, which is something you can't get from textbooks alone.

Programme Overview

The Graduate Diploma in ECE is a 1 year and 3 months programme. Most of the learning is online, with forums for discussion and lecturers always available to answer questions. I felt very supported during my study, both academically and practically.



New Zealand
Tertiary College



Practicum and Home Centre

There are four practicums: two in your home centre and two in other centres. My first centre was near my house, but another student recommended a different one. After visiting, I transferred there—and I'm glad I did. It became a special place for me, and I now work there as a reliever.

Overcoming Language Challenges

Even though I had studied English for a long time, I found face-to-face communication hard at first. To improve, I talked more with the children and took free English classes at local churches. Over time, I felt more confident and fluent, and I even made new friends through those classes.

Memorable Moments

After my first out-of-home practicum, I returned to my home centre. The moment I stepped in, the teachers and children all greeted me warmly. One child ran up and gave me a big hug. That was the moment I knew I wanted to stay in this field.

Personal Growth

The graduate diploma helped me grow not only professionally, but also personally. I learned to manage pressure, take initiative, and truly engage with the community. These skills will benefit me for the rest of my life.



Learning Through Play

Back in China, early childhood education focuses more on academics like maths or Chinese. But in New Zealand, the approach is play-based. Children learn while playing and are encouraged to explore. This difference really changed how I see children's learning and development.

Working as a Reliever

I'm currently working as a reliever at my home centre. My associate teacher offered me the role, and I accepted it happily. It helps me financially, and I've learned a lot about how the centre operates day-to-day. It's been a valuable step on my journey.

Future Goals

My near goal is to gain full teacher registration. Looking further ahead, I hope to take on a leadership role in a childcare centre. I want to promote positive ideas in ECE and help create an empowering and safe environment for children.

Recommendation

I would definitely recommend NZTC and studying in New Zealand. The programme is short but powerful. You gain practical experience, academic knowledge, and life skills. It may be challenging, but you'll come out stronger and more prepared for the future.

"The practicum experiences at NZTC gave me real confidence—and when I was welcomed back with hugs from the children, I knew I was in the right place."

CHUJUN IS SHAPING HER FUTURE.

To shape yours, enrol with UP Education, New Zealand.

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