

Practical solutions to barriers to effective pastoral care of Chinese students

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This research explores the expectations, perceptions, and experiences of international student advisers doing pastoral care and counselling of Chinese students. Researchers used an informal focus group, structured interviews and a feedback survey to gather data along with a literature survey. Particular attention was paid to the help seeking behaviour of Chinese students, what the perceived barriers were and what strategies advisers used to overcome them. Advisers identified 13 barriers and 41 bridges to overcome them. This paper discusses these barrier and bridges in a format that provides practical suggestions for those advising not just Chinese students, but students in general.