

The Importance of Being Responsible

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After complicated proceedings of applying for a short course in UWTSD in Wales, we started off on July 18, 2023. After a month of study and seminars coupled with cultural tours around Swansea, we returned to our home safe and sound on Aug. 19, 2023. During the time we have learned and benefited a lot, let alone broadening our mind. What I am impressed most is the importance of being responsible.

Firstly, I was partly responsible for all the passports. I took all the passports to Beijing ahead of others for VISA application under the Mr Duan's assignment. After two days, just on the departure day, Director Duan and I went to the VISA center to obtain 24 of the passports with VISA affirmations. The remaining 5 passports were affirmed one week later. These important documents must be safely carried until we returned to Mr Duan when we arrived at our home country.

Secondly, we were responsible for all the keys, kitchen utensils as well as tableware. We were given keys to the apartment, a set of tableware and allowed to use the designated kitchen. Before we left, we returned the keys and had a good cleaning of our apartment and kitchen including the cookers, stove, oven and fridge. As for me, I have got to return the umbrella, the wheelchair Ms Zhang used and the key to the lift for disabled access. These three facilities I borrowed from the accommodation office must be kept safe all the time because two of them might be the only ones there. I had to be responsible for their being with me and I did not lend them to others in case of any loss. I had a hug with the staff member in the accommodation office after I explained to me about the repair of the wheelchair. He appreciated my efforts to keep the key safe and the wheelchair still in use.

Thirdly, we were responsible to the colleagues in need. I was not good at cooking and Ms Zhang and Ms Chang did not quite well in English. So we three formed a group of helping each other in life and study in Swansea. Unfortunately, Ms Zhang slipped herself during the outing to Rossilli. Her right leg and ankle were bruised. Many colleagues offered her great help and advice. Mr Duan brought safflower oil. Mr Hu lichun gave her some medicine. On the second day after the accident, Ms Chang and I took her to hospital for consultation. Unexpectedly, she broken her right leg and had to had a cast around her lower right leg. Ten days later, we went to another hospital for checkup. Luckily, the doctor was able to cut down the cast and gave her a fitting boot for leg exercising. We went to London with the help from Mr Ma Yuan so that the wheelchair Ms Zhang had a chance of a valuable journey to the UK. During her stay in Swansea, Ms Zhang received warm visits and help from all the colleagues there and the program director in UWTSD, some of them bringing her delicate cookies handmade in the kitchen, some instructing her to go through green channel for assistance at the airport and others helping find a comfortable seat in the plane. She is grateful to have come back home with so many people's help and guidance. I am deeply moved at all of us showing her care and concern and realized that responsibility during the long journey comes out of the kindness and affection to the people in need.

There are many many beautiful memories left behind. Interesting classes and seminars, beneficial research on how to analyze academic articles, learning how to conduct questionnaires, easygoing communications with professors in the university, inquiring interactions with the local

people about the ways and use of Google maps, smiling foreign faces every time we asked for help, together with the exotic scenery we enjoyed. It was an unforgettable experience through which I learned more about how to communicate with ourselves and others guided by the consciousness of respectability.