

LAW King Ho

It was my first time to join the working trip to Daping Village in Guangxi. It was definitely a valuable and meaningful experience for me as what I can see or learn in Hong Kong is quite different to that in such a remote place.

The main objectives of the trip are keeping track of the construction progress and confirming the amendments of the design with site engineer and architects from Shanghai. Thus, before the working trip, we had discussed the design of the drainage system and balcony, things needed to be checked on site and prepared questions related to the construction project. Before the trip, I thought what I have done were quite ordinary and did not expect anything special in the trip. In fact, the four day working trip was an unforgettable and rewarding experience.

During the visit to the school in Daping Village, the most impressive thing was not related to the construction of the teacher's dormitory but the learning environment of the students. They did not have fancy high tech equipment like students in Hong Kong, what they had in their classroom were some basic stuff like textbooks, stationaries, chairs, desks and a blackboard and there was nothing else. The conditions of student's dormitory were not satisfactory. They lived in an overcrowded and dirty room. In the break and lunch time, the students even played with the construction materials placed in the playground. Even though they were learning in an undesirable environment, they still cherished their opportunity of receiving education, studied hard and enjoyed their lives. They taught me a simple truth, happiness lies in contentment, we can still feel satisfied if we only get what we need but not what we want, it only depends on how we think.

In the trip, we needed to negotiate with the site engineer and the architects, who have different concerns about the project. Sometime it was difficult to get a solution which satisfied everyone's requirements, that why it is important to learn how to bargain and communicate with others and achieve what we need.

In short, I gained some practical experience in construction project and other things which cannot be learnt in the lecture. I truly hope that the project can improve the living conditions of teachers and students in the school.