

My dad's temporary job assignment brought my whole family to Nanjing to experience something new and have a real taste of life across the world. This makes me wonder: What brings the other thousands of families to Nanjing and how long are they planning to stay?

In Nanjing, there are more than 20,000 foreigners that come from all over the world. Many of them are working in Korean, German, US and other foreign companies and factories located in Nanjing, such as Hyundai, LG and Samsung from Korea and Phoenix, Siemens, BASF SE from Germany. That's why Korean students take up 30% in NIS and German students take up another 30%. Car manufacturing is one of Nanjing's major industries. Ford has an assembling line in Nanjing. One of my classmate's father works there. I was told that many American engineers were transferred from Detroit to Nanjing. Small city, big industries! ©













On average, my classmates have already stayed here for at least 2-3 years and are planning to stay for more years to come or even until they graduate high school. There is one girl in my class named Felicity, her mom works for NIS, has been living in Nanjing for a total of 6 years! My mom is a PTA (Parents Teachers Association) member. The PTA director shared her own story with all the parents during a meeting. Her husband was transferred from America to Nanjing in 2006. They stayed here for 3 years and flew back to America. But their children missed Nanjing and NIS so much that they decided to move back to Nanjing again in 2011. This time they decided to stay until their kids graduate from high school. This is only my 5th month in Nanjing. Comparing to the families that have stayed here for many years, my feelings for NIS definitely don't go as deep as theirs. But I will keep you posted on all my new experiences of life on the other side of the world. Stay tuned...