



The 2026 TNE Surge in China

5 critical policy & market takeaways for UK
higher education.

219

new partnerships in May

23%

UK share of approvals

1,467

active UK-China tracks



No “Sudden Brakes” on TNE

Chinese Ministry of Education (MoE) authorities delivered a clear message of stability:

- Policy aims to continue and refine international integration — not reverse it.
- The MoE is currently revising implementation measures and drafting new guidance documents.

THE STRATEGY

Focus shifts heavily toward “quality over volume” — and expansion into Central & Western China.

The Mid-2026 Landscape at a Glance

1,700+

Approved undergraduate & above programmes nationwide.

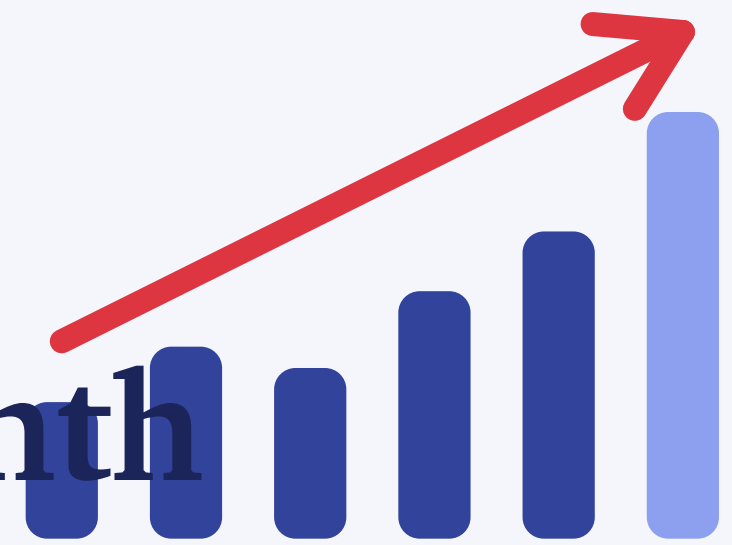
1,100+

Overseas higher-ed institutions engaged, across 45 countries.

34

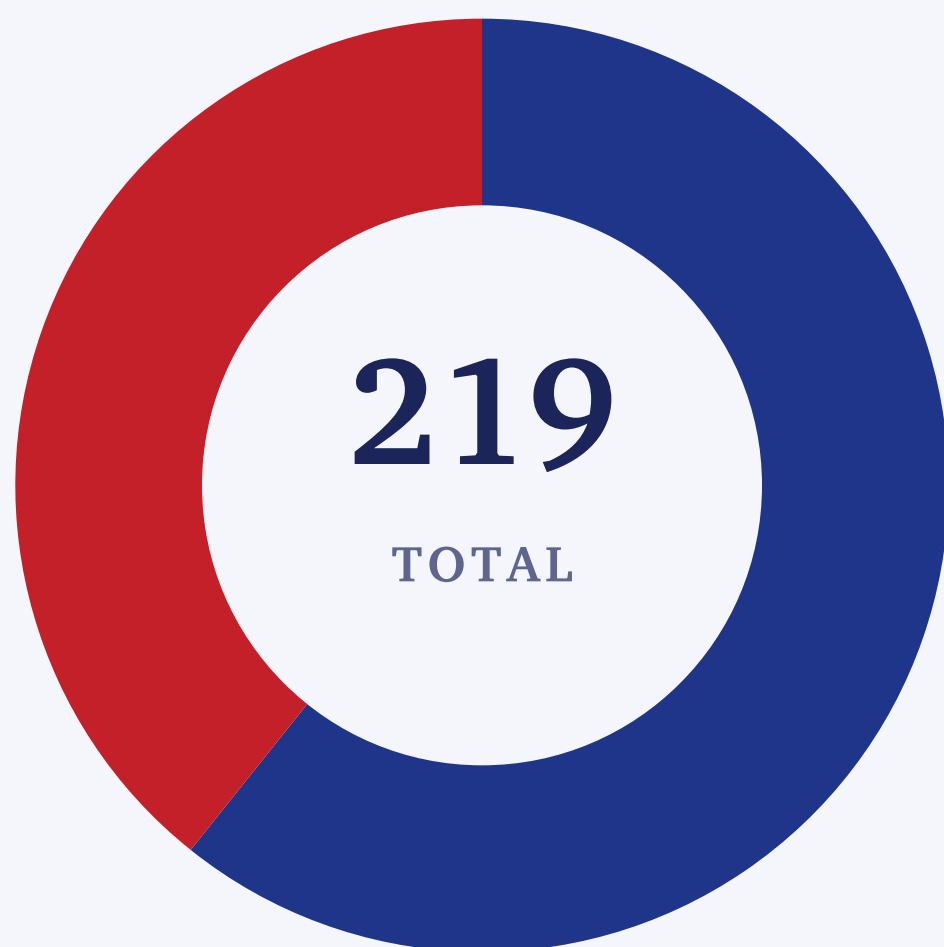
Globally Top-100 universities actively operating in China.

May 2026: A Record-Breaking Month



219

new TNE partnerships approved
in a single month.



- **133 Joint Programmes (JEP)**
Single-degree tracks
- **86 Joint Institutes (JI)**
Multi-disciplinary schools

The UK leads globally as the top partner country — followed by Russia, France, and Italy.

The UK is Leading the Charge



50 new UK-China partnerships approved — 23% of all May approvals nationwide.

34

Joint Institutes approved

16

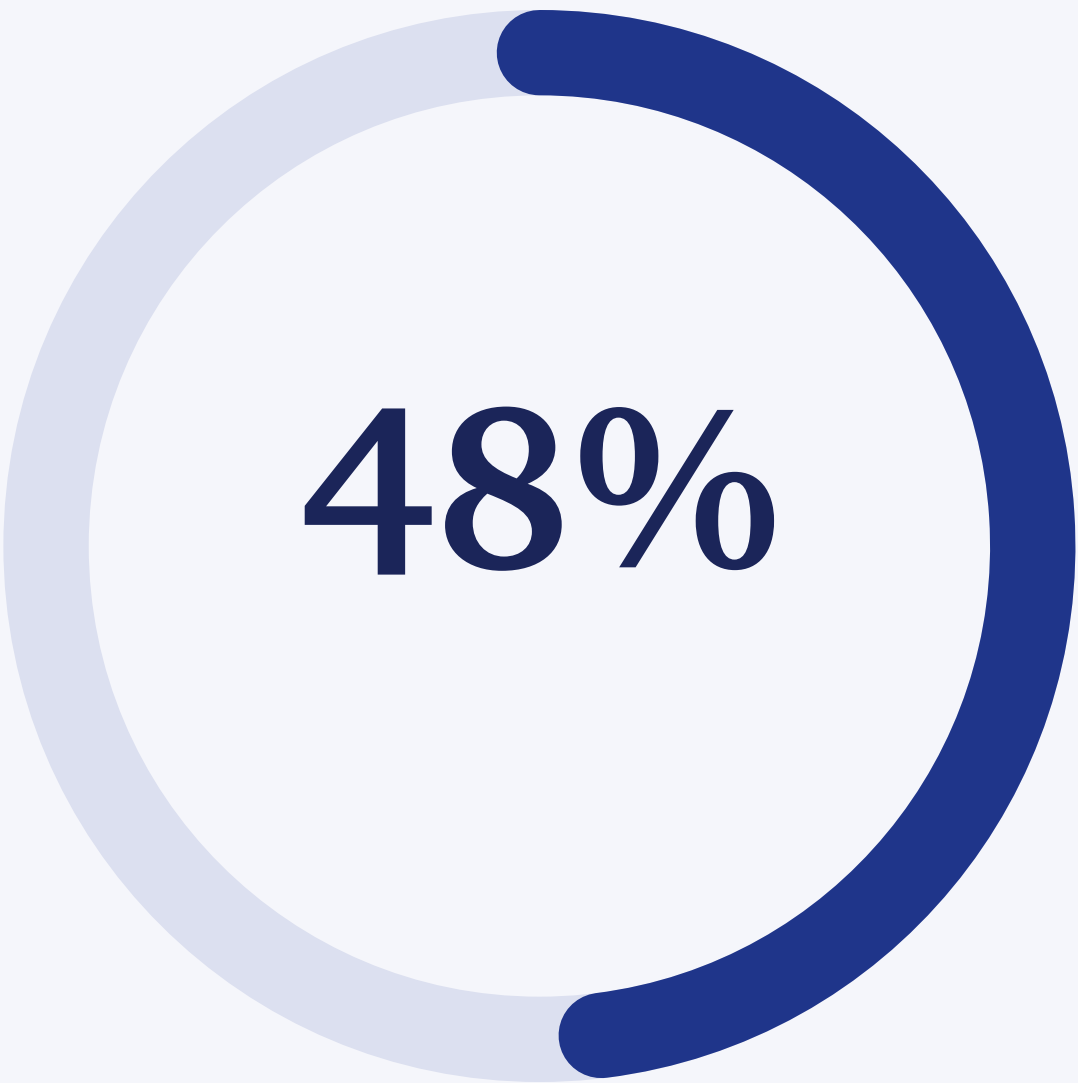
Joint Programmes approved

80%

of these tracks include undergraduate levels

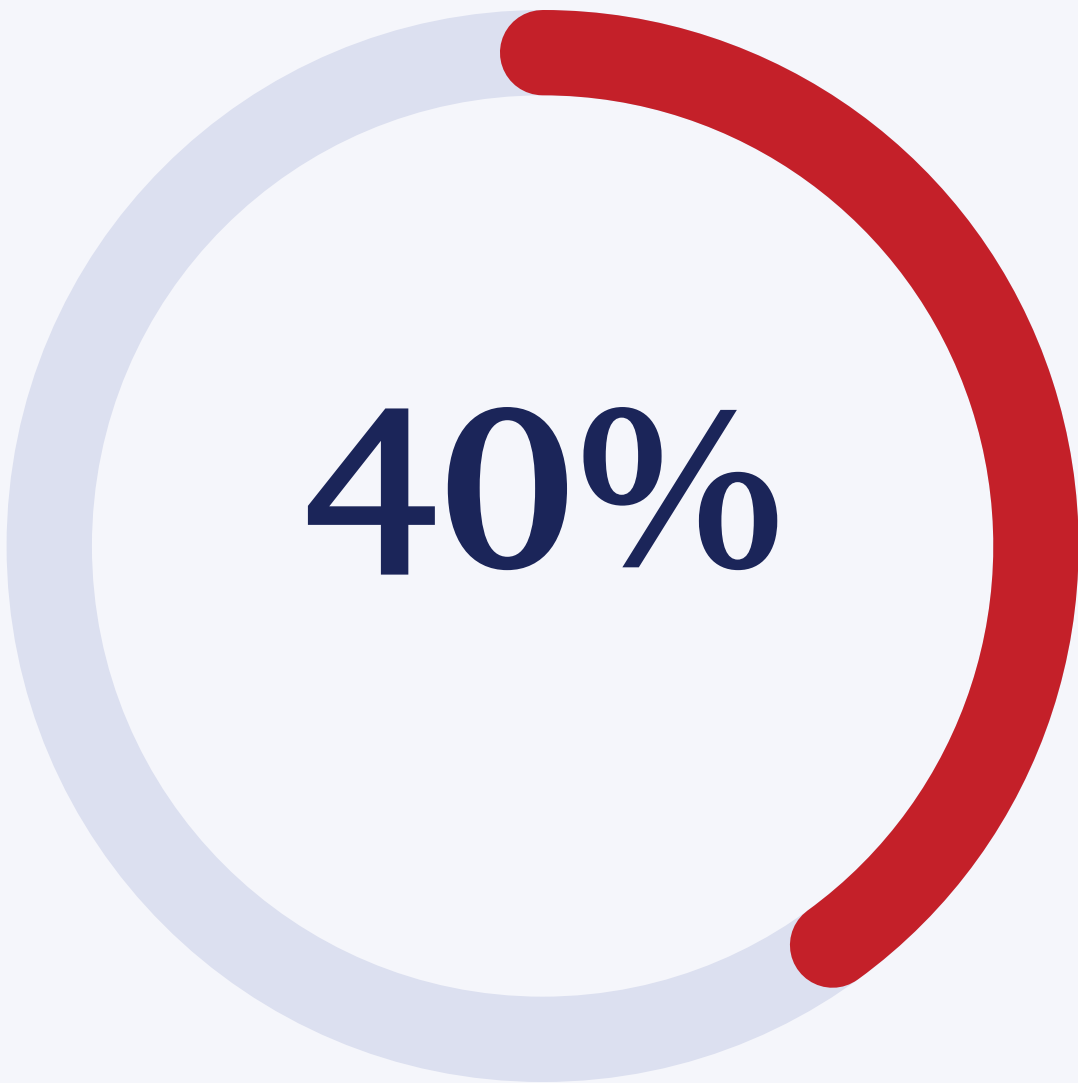
What Fields Are Hot?

UK academic focus areas in newly approved partnerships:



Computer Science & AI

Big data & digital
technologies



Engineering

& advanced
manufacturing

Nearly 9 in 10 new UK tracks sit in digital and engineering disciplines — a clear STEM-first mandate.

THE BASELINE



The Cumulative UK-China Footprint

Moving into the second half of 2026, the
baseline of active cooperation has never been
stronger:

1,467

Active joint programmes
& institutes at Bachelor's
level or above.

239

Dedicated, active
UK-China partnerships
driving global mobility.



Bridging the Gap for Global Students

At LGE, we design curriculum pathways meticulously aligned with the UK higher-education framework — preparing students academically, linguistically, and culturally to excel.

Let's collaborate · September 2026 intake

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INSIGHTS FROM THE BUCA 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE