

PEARSON PLC  
Form 6-K  
May 28, 2008

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 6-K**

**REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER  
PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 UNDER  
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the month of May 2008

**PEARSON plc**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

N/A

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

**80 Strand  
London, England WC2R 0RL  
44-20-7010-2000**  
(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant files or will file annual reports  
under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F:

Form 20-F  X

Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant by furnishing the information  
contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the  
Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Yes

No  X

This Report includes the following documents:

1. A press release from Pearson plc announcing Acquisition

28 May 2008

**PEARSON STEPS UP INVESTMENT IN  
CHINA  
:  
ACQUIRES TWO PRIVATE ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL CHAINS**

Pearson, the international education and information company, today announces that it has agreed to acquire two privately-owned English language school chains in China

Learning Education Center (LEC), founded in 2000, provides English language instruction for children aged five to 12, through 17 schools, principally in Shanghai. Children attend classes after school, at weekends and during school holidays. Pearson has acquired 80% of LEC from its founders, Andrew Chen and Michelle He.

Dell English, founded in 1999, offers English language training to students typically aged between 15 and 35 years old, through more than 20 schools, principally in Beijing

. Pearson will initially acquire 50% of Dell English from its founder and owner, Cole Wang, and will make further investment over the next three years to fund the expansion of the business, taking Pearson's stake to 70%.

Together, LEC and Dell English had sales of approximately \$10 million in 2007 and gross assets of about \$6.2 million at the end of 2007.

Pearson plans to support the continued expansion of both schools, which will operate under the 'Learning'

brand. Marjorie Scardino, Pearson's chief executive, is formally opening 'Learning'

at one of its schools today in Shanghai

. Pearson will develop new curriculum materials for China

, drawing on content from Penguin and Pearson Longman, one of the world's leading publishers of English language training materials for teachers and students. Pearson also will invest in new teacher development programmes, assessment services and interactive digital learning programmes.

"We are significantly accelerating our investment and growth in China

," said Marjorie Scardino. "It is a market where public and private spending on education is growing rapidly, where parents see that English language proficiency is central to their children's success and adults see that English greatly improves their job prospects in the global economy. We are very proud that these two fast-growing businesses are joining Pearson, and we are excited by the opportunities to build our business and serve students there."

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Pearson also announced today that the Pearson Foundation, the company's charitable arm, will help rebuild and support a school that was significantly damaged and disrupted by the recent earthquake in China

**ENDS**

**For more information:**

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**Note to Editors:**

Pearson's other activities in China include Pearson Education, which co-publishes textbooks

with Chinese partners, in addition to English-language dictionaries and training books; Penguin, which this year began publishing Penguin Classics in Mandarin and is publishing the Chinese best-selling novel Wolf Totem in English around the world; and FTChinese.com, the Chinese-language website of the Financial Times. Other Pearson activities in China include Pearson VUE, the professional testing unit, and the New York Institute of Finance, which develops courses in marketing, finance and information technology.

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

PEARSON plc

Date: 28 May 2008

By: /s/ STEPHEN JONES

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Stephen Jones  
Deputy Secretary