



Is international volunteering right for you? This document will give you a brief outline about volunteering with the **Teaching in South Africa** next year. Please read this information carefully. You can apply directly My Hub by clicking on the Apply Now button on the website or [click here](#). Application deadline is Sunday 11th November 2018.

Project Information

There is the opportunity for a team of volunteers to travel to South Africa for three weeks. Volunteers will be assigned to Schietsdrift School.

Schietsdrift is a small and basic remote Zulu school which acquired a new school building in recent years and now has electricity and running water, something they had gone without for a long time. Lessons are supposed to be in English but this often proves difficult so volunteers are needed to help with English and some other subjects. Volunteers need to be able to assist the teachers and also take lessons and run activities independently where necessary.

The team will be based at the beautiful but remote Spion Kop Lodge and will be driven to and from school every day. There is the option to stay on for some (self-funded) free time at the end of the three weeks.

Your team leader will be Dr Lucy Laville, Course Director for the School of Events, Tourism & Hospitality Management. Lucy will part of your whole experience here in Leeds and will travel with you to South Africa to volunteer alongside you as our Team Leader.



Accommodation

Volunteers will stay at Spion Kop Lodge, which is owned by Lynette and Raymond Heron. Although beautiful and well equipped, Spion Kop Lodge is remote there is access restaurants via car, which you can arrange with the Team Leader to take you there. Volunteers will be based in a self-catering cottage but will need to integrate into the family and mix with the other guests at the lodge. The team will have access to a vehicle the whole time on the project, so can easily pop out for supplies or eating out on occasions.

The Team Leader and international volunteering team at Leeds Beckett will provide all of the relevant training, preparation and fundraising assistance for volunteers prior to departure. The volunteer team will then travel out to South Africa for a challenging and rewarding three weeks volunteering.

Project dates: Friday 19th July 2019 > 11th August 2019

Duration: Three weeks volunteering plus optional independent travel

About the organisation

Schietsdrift currently has approx. 200 pupils who are the children of the local farm labourers and labour tenants in the local district. Because of its location some children walk about 10 km to school, sometimes

barefoot! The parents see the value of a formal education and understand that they are giving their children an opportunity that they may not have had themselves. Although the home language is Zulu, officially lessons are supposed to be taught in English; however, the teachers themselves are not completely fluent and parents don't necessarily speak English making it hard for the pupils to practice at home. All the young people at the school are eager to learn, as they understand that English language skills will help them get paid employment in the tourism industry in the Drakensberg mountains.



The children are grouped into grades one, two and three; grades four and five; and grades six and seven. Imagine how hard it must be for them to teach classes with such a range of ages! All the teachers have a good understanding of English but not necessarily how to teach it, so volunteers will need to be confident enough to teach on their own to a class of approx. 15 - 30 pupils of all abilities. Other subjects will be taught as well as English to give them a great learning experience for the time you are there.



There will be elements of sharing teaching methodology from your course, helping them put together new teaching materials and working with them to understand and use the IT equipment that has been generously donated by a local land owner.

Over the last couple of years through fundraising, the school has got some new buildings and access to mains electricity and water, which has made a massive difference to the school and its pupils and although the facilities are not UK standard, the teachers and pupils have good attendance records and enjoy going to school. The children are always smiling, happy and ready to learn!

About the volunteer role

Volunteers will run activities with an educational emphasis, this may include English teaching, reading, writing and working with children. Ideally, volunteers from the following backgrounds would be suitable but please also get in touch if you have relevant skills to support the project work:

- Teaching & education studies
- Social work & youth development
- Sports (PE through to Sports Development)
- Play work

Pre-Departure Activities and Commitments

There's quite a lot for volunteers to do before departure. If you are interested in applying, you must make sure that you will have enough time for the project in between your studies and your work.

After your team has been recruited, there will be a compulsory team briefing and you will need to fundraise, some of which will be with your team, and some you will probably do on your own. There will be other compulsory team meetings to help prepare you for the experience. The team meetings will discuss essential health information and lots of other things to help prepare you about what to expect as a volunteer in your chosen project. Although it's not spread evenly, we'd recommend allowing an average of two hours a week from when you find out you get a place to departure. This includes:

- Attending regular team meetings (every 4-6 weeks)

- Keeping in contact with your Team Leader
- Providing key documents to the volunteering team as required (e.g. passport)
- Completing DBS checks or visa applications
- Ongoing fundraising activities
- Planning project resources and objectives



Key Dates

Application deadline	Sunday 11 th November 2018
Shortlisting	W/C Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th Nov
First Team Meeting	December 2018
January - June 2019	Compulsory team meetings (dates TBC)
Saturday 6th April 2019	The Big Abseil event
Saturday 11th May 2019	Yorkshire 3 Peak Challenge
Project	See dates below
Optional travel time	<p>You must decide whether you wish to remain in country for one week following the end of the volunteering project.</p> <p><i>This must be confirmed by the first team meeting in December. If not, an immediate return will be booked and you must cover any additional costs to change your flight.</i></p>

About the project

Project dates: Friday 19th July 2019 > 11th August 2019

Travel – Transport is arranged for you to travel as a team from Leeds Beckett University based on immediate return after volunteering. Your project fees include travel between Leeds and the departure airport only, and unfortunately, we cannot make exceptions/alternative arrangements if you require another pick-up and/or drop-off point. If you are travelling independently, you may have to make your own return journey to Leeds.

Volunteer support – Each volunteering team has a Team Leader who is a Leeds Beckett member of staff, as well as an in-country coordinator. Thorough risk assessments and careful planning is undertaken to ensure your experience is safe from start to finish. The International Volunteering staff at Leeds Beckett will also be on-call 24/7 whilst you are volunteering, though point of contact will usually be via your Team Leader.

Accommodation –

Project specific: Volunteers will be based in a self-catering cottage but will need to integrate into the family and mix with the other guests at the lodge. The team will have access to a vehicle the whole time on the project, so can easily pop out for supplies or eating out on occasions.

General: With all our international volunteering projects, please remember that we are working with not-for-profit organisations and accommodation will be different and more basic than that of U.K. and westernised standards. Please be prepared that there may only be cold water showers, basic sanitation facilities and limited electricity, with intermittent WiFi access in some places. Insects, extreme weather (hot, cold, wet, humid) and no air-conditioning should be expected.

Free time – the working hours will be set most days and you will have some planning and other preparation but it won't be all work though and there will be some free time during the four weeks to relax, explore the local area which is rich in history and wildlife, hang out with your new friends or take part in some of the many cultural activities that are easy to organise. After the project work has finished, volunteers are free to explore and travel if they wish for the rest of the time. Please note that you will need to plan and fund this part of the trip yourself. Don't worry; we can give you ideas of things to do depending on your budget.

Food – You will be able to self catering on this project as the accommodation has a full kitchen including all plates, cups, saucepans etc... You will be able to drive to Ladysmith (nearest large town) which has a large supermarket.

Challenges - You may feel a sense of culture shock when arriving into the new community. Volunteering can be a challenge and third world conditions can leave you feeling a world away from home. It is completely normal to feel uncomfortable and out of your depth at first. By the end of the project, we find our volunteers look back upon the challenges as their proudest moments and they feel as though they have a second home in their volunteering country. The interaction with local people and learning about local culture is what our volunteers come to cherish most from their time in the local communities.

Other important information

If you are considering applying, please consider the following points:

- As with most volunteering projects there are often last-minute changes to the programme, either before departure or perhaps on a day-to-day basis with the host organisation. Volunteers need to be patient, flexible and understanding about the fact that arrangements can sometimes change last-minute and sometimes things do not run exactly to plan.
- Unfortunately, the experience will not always be fun and volunteers often find certain aspects of their trip challenging. Living 24/7 with other volunteers can present its own surprising challenges too, but don't worry, we expect that most volunteers will have an amazing time, and we have team leaders on hand to support you.

Fundraising

Fundraising for your host organisation is a requirement to being accepted on the project. In addition to the project fees, you also need to fundraise £100 for the host organisation. Many of our previous volunteers have had great success fundraising, and some have continued raising money after returning because they have been so inspired by the work of the organisation. We'll help you with your fundraising and encourage you to work as a group. Your Team Leader will help encourage you, and try to coordinate group activities to help you all reach your targets. Previous fundraising examples include cake sales, abseils, sponsored walks, charity nights and even approaching companies for donations to raffle. We have lots more suggestions and will cover ideas in one of our team meetings, and provide resources for you to use, plus you can look online for other recommendations.

Beyond raising money for the organisation you are volunteering with, fundraising looks fantastic on your CV! It shows prospective employers that you have are confident, have strong marketing and communication skills, can manage events and many other skills.

Each year, to help volunteers with their fundraising targets we organise some events. This year we will be organising a Yorkshire 3 Peak Challenge and a Big Abseil off Portland Building.

Minimum fundraising target: £100

Project Fees

The project fees are £1700 plus £100 Fundraising. However, all volunteers are eligible for our Global Engagement £250 bursary*, which means:

Total FEES payable £1450, *plus* your FUNDRAISING target of £100 = £1550

What **IS** included in your project fees:

- Transport between Leeds Beckett University and a U.K. airport (*based on immediate return*)
- Return flights to volunteering country
- Transport from destination airport to volunteering site
- DBS and Visa checks (if applicable)
- Accommodation whilst volunteering
- Travel insurance (subject to eligibility)
- 24-hour support
- Pre-departure training
- Branded Volunteering 1 x hoodie & 2 x t-shirts

What **IS NOT** included:

- Spending money (including food) – we recommend £10-15 per day
- Any costs for free-time activities (non-volunteering time)
- Any additional independent travel, food and accommodation costs (e.g. weekend activities, eating elsewhere or sight-seeing costs)
- Personal spending money for free-time (non-volunteering time)
- Vaccinations – Visit www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice for details on essential and recommended vaccinations

FEE Payment Deadlines £1450 payable

Category	Total Cost (£)
Deposit (<i>non-refundable</i>)	£200
Remaining balance (less deposit) <i>To be paid at least 3 weeks prior to departure</i>	£1250

FUNDRAISING Deadline £100 payable

Minimum donation <i>To be paid at least 3 weeks prior to departure</i>	£100
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Where your money goes:

The largest percentage of your costs is for the long-haul flights and accommodation, which often are around 90% of the total fees. We often pay the money for food and accommodation, plus other associated costs directly to the charity host organisation and they do not make any profit from this money. This covers the cost of you being there, for to ensure you have a place to sleep and food to eat, but you are not paying to volunteer with the organisation.

You do not pay any Leeds Beckett staff costs as part of your fee. The Team Leader gives their time for free (using their personal annual leave) and, in return, their travel expenses are paid by the University. This enables us to try to ensure that you have a safe and enjoyable experience, without worrying about transfers, directions and other logistics.

* **Bursary terms**

In exchange for the Global Engagement bursary, we would like you to submit three photos **and** one of the following within one month of your return to the U.K.:

- a) Blog *written whilst volunteering* (300 word minimum)
- b) Testimonial *when you return* (300 words min) describing the impact the experience has had on you
- c) Vlog (1 minute minimum)
- d) Video edit of your volunteering experience (1 minute minimum)

How to apply

Thank you for your interest! To apply for this international volunteering opportunity, please complete the application by clicking on the Apply Now button on the website or **click here**.

Contact

If you are having any problems please contact volunteering@leedsbeckett.ac.uk / 0113 81 23804

We look forward to hearing from you!