

## EU-funded Volunteering in an Austrian Montessori School

Experience child-based, stress-free schooling



«Schulgarten – Aktive Montessorischule Telfs»

Apply for an 10-months project in Tirol, Austria  
Start: 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2018

Only European Union (EU) or European Economic Area (EEA) residents may apply.

## Hosting Organisation:

Schulgarten – Aktive Montessorischule Telfs

[www.schulgarten.at](http://www.schulgarten.at)

Located in Telfs, Austria

Schulgarten – Aktive Montessorischule Telfs will be hosting a volunteer for the second time.



### Some info on the hosting organisation:

- *We live "green":* Our School is situated amidst the Tyrolean mountains Alps, is located at the edge of the town Telfs in western Tyrol and is surrounded by green fields. All seasons offer great opportunities for sports, outdoor activities, but also easy to reach close-by cultural events in Innsbruck, the capital of Tyrol, and sightseeing possibilities within Austria and neighbouring countries.
- *We work actively:* Our huge garden is a learning field as well as an adventurous and recreational playground for our children. One day a week teaching takes place outdoor in the surrounding forests, using the offerings of nature for learning and exploring.
- *We teach child-based:* Momentarily, our school hosts 56 children aged 6 to 15. Each one of them is treated like an intelligent, emotional and mature human being and is coached based on personal possibilities, abilities and interests by our pedagogic team (10 teachers).
- *We coach stress-free:* Our children learn free of pressure and over-stress. They are allowed to have their individual pace in learning, achieving and implementing. And all within the pedagogic thoughts of Maria Montessori: "As much freedom as possible, as much structure as necessary."

This project is funded by the EU- programme "Erasmus+: Youth in Action". The ONLY financial contribution that the selected volunteer may need to make is to pay a small share of the travel costs if necessary. This project is already approved by the Austrian national agency under the budgetary rules of 2017.

## Coordinating organisation:

The coordinating organisation of this project is InfoEck, a youth info centre in Innsbruck. InfoEck coordinates 14 volunteers in the region of Tirol. The coordinator is ready to answer open questions and to prepare this project with the hosting organisation, the selected volunteer and the sending organisation. InfoEck will link all volunteers in Tirol during the project and give regular support. The coordinator is Erika: [erika.mischitz@infoeck.at](mailto:erika.mischitz@infoeck.at). More info: [www.mei-infoeck.at](http://www.mei-infoeck.at), InfoEck Facebook, Instagram and Youtube.

### Our motto:

**Embrace the challenge. Be open to leaving your comfort zone several times. Be curious about yourself and others and ready to meet inspiring people. Try new things and learn for a lifetime!**

## Location, Housing, Money:

Schulgarten – Aktive Montessorischule Telfs is located in the market town Telfs, with about 15.000 inhabitants. It is a small town. There is good infrastructure, opportunities of outdoors and sports, basic shops etc. The regional capital Innsbruck can be reached in 30 minutes via train/bus.

We offer a flat in co-operation with the community of Telfs. The volunteer will share this flat with two other volunteers, each volunteer has his/her own room and there are shared facilities, kitchen, living room and a balcony. Transportation to work is not needed, everything is within walking-distance. Public transport is easily accessible and well organized.

This project is funded by the EU- programme “Erasmus+: Youth in Action”. The volunteering project is financed by the EU, the coordinating and the hosting organisation. The volunteer will receive a monthly pocket money of Euro 120,- and foodmoney.



## Tasks & Activities of the volunteer:

The volunteer will be engaged in a variety of tasks and activities, 35 hours per week, on five days per week from Monday to Friday. The volunteer will be supported by a multi-professional team in the school. The target group are 6- to 9-year-old children that go to the school.

The tasks and activities can encompass the following:

- Active participation in the daily routines of our school day (lessons, outdoor activities, nature day, leisure time, project-based work, creative projects...)
- Face-to-face coaching of the children according to our school concept
- Accompanying the children on excursions (museums, cultural events, ...) and to sports activities (skiing, climbing, ...)
- Arranging the daily learning environment
- Bring in her/his own talents, creative ideas, skills, own cultural background and language (cooking local dishes, handy-crafts, music, ...)
- Taking part in our weekly team meetings
- Attending our parent-teacher conference evenings, held six times a year



## Duration:

10,5 Months - from the beginning of September 2018 until the second week of July 2019!

**Important:** We ask you to only apply if you are committed to participate the **whole duration**, it's important for the project, your learning development and for the hosting organisation.

**The deadline to apply is the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2018.**

## Profile of the volunteer:

We would be happy to host a volunteer who:

- wants to experience working with school children aged 6 to 9 years and is eager to participate actively
- is interested in learning more about another culture and different backgrounds
- is open-minded, friendly, enthusiastic, creative and communicative
- is willing to work in an interdisciplinary team and reflect her/his work
- is motivated to learn German (and some Tyrolean German dialect)
- brings her/his own culture and interests into the project
- is ready to volunteer for 10,5 months starting in September 2018

**Only European Union (EU) or European Economic Area (EEA) residents may apply.** Due to project approval criteria, we can only accept volunteers in this placement who do not require a visa or residence permit for 10 months in Austria.



## Support during the project:

The volunteer will have regular meetings with her or his mentor and with Angelika Widauer of the hosting organisation, to talk about the wellbeing or about the project activities.

In the hosting organisation the volunteer will receive orientation and support for the activities from the main responsible employee and from the entire team.

The coordinating organisation InfoEck will hold a regular group meeting with all volunteers in Tyrol in order to share experiences, give support to one another and to stay connected. At the end of the project we will evaluate it together with the volunteer and look at what he or she has learned and which competences he or she has gained and as a result the volunteer can fill in the Youthpass certificate. Volunteers are involved in common projects.

The volunteer will get to know other volunteers from various countries and will be invited to participate in monthly free-time activities, organised by young Austrians.

## How to apply:

Please send your CV and the enclosed APPLICATION FORM to the coordinating organisation InfoEck: [erika.mischitz@infoeck.at](mailto:erika.mischitz@infoeck.at). You need to address Mrs. Angelika Widauer from the Schulgarten Telfs in your application. The applications will be passed on by InfoEck after the deadline.

**The deadline to apply is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2018.**

Only complete applications will be considered. Option: You can additionally send something creative to express your motivation (this is not demanded, but it can be a plus).

InfoEck or Mrs. Widauer will get in touch with the applicants after the deadline via e-mail, so check your e-mail regularly. Some applicants will be invited for a skype talk. The final decision will be taken about two weeks after the deadline by the Schulgarten and all applicants will be informed about their status.

**We are waiting to hear from you!**

