

VAIDA KINDERGARTEN PILLERPALL (Vaida Lasteaed Pillerpall)



Organisation description

We are a small public kindergarten (pre-school child care institution) with only 4 groups of children between the ages of 3 - 7 years. There are 18 children in each group, but usually only 12 - 15 of them come to the kindergarten daily. We are a family-friendly organization where the children can learn new skills through games, common activities, hiking and outdoor trips. We have a spacious green yard and a playground where children can play throughout the year.

The 25 workers of the kindergarten form a friendly and united team that is working towards reaching common goals. There are 2 teachers and 1 assistant in each group. The teachers are specialized in pre-school education and they take part in trainings to renew their skills and knowledge throughout the year. All employees are motivated to get new experiences and always learn something

new. Workers in the same group cooperate well with each other and therefore they often participate in different learning projects with the whole group. The teachers actively create and organize different events in the kindergarten.

Project context

Our kindergarten is situated in a small village of ca 1000 inhabitants. We are located close to Tallinn (20km) and there is a grocery store, a library, a family physician and a dentist in the village. The bus connection to and from the capital is good. There are smaller rural villages around our village where it is possible to go fishing in the nature, to go for a walk or to do sports. One can also take part in different cultural events that take place in the area, for example concerts, theatre, movie nights or local dance and song celebrations during summertime. There is a big sports centre with a swimming pool 15 km from us.

Proposed Activities

We are looking for someone who would want to work with pre-school children, contribute to our organization with new ideas and thoughts and be a part of our team. The volunteer should help the teachers with everyday care (such as to observing the children, dressing, outside activities) and also help to organize art and sports activities and games both inside and outside. The volunteer would be involved in music and sports activities and organizing parties, be helpful during small trips and while going to the theatre. He/she would help the teacher in the robotics class which is organized for the children. We would expect him/her to introduce both us and the children the language and the culture of the country he or she is from. We can help him/her to get to know our culture and traditions through the work. Participating in the teaching activities would help the volunteer to get a good overview about teaching children through games and preparing them for school. It is also possible to try out different roles and find challenges while organizing events in the kindergarten. In robotics class, the volunteer can see how programming is taught to pre-school aged children and how teaching of native language, art, mathematics, nature etc is integrated into teaching programming.



Profile of Volunteer and Recruitment Process

The volunteer should want to work with preschool-aged children, previous work experience is appreciated. The volunteer has to be honest, sincere, polite and open-minded regarding communication and changes. It is also appreciated if the person is enthusiastic, joyful, willing to work in team, creative in some field, can think outside the box, is good at art, singing or dancing.

Selection of volunteers will be done by our kindergarden in cooperation with our coordinating organisation MTÜ Noortevahetuse Arengu Ühing EstYES. Coordinating organisation MTÜ EstYES will make the primary selection among volunteer candidates. All volunteer applications approved by EstYES will be forwarded to Vaida Kindergarten Pillerpall so that we could do the final selection. We are open to work with any competent sending organisation.

Support

Accommodation will be arranged by the kindergarden in cooperation with the coordinating organisation MTÜ EstYES. Volunteer will be placed in flat that correspond to normal Estonian living standards. Volunteer will have either single or double room and common rooms: equipped kitchen, WC, shower/bathroom and living room. Volunteer will live close to the kindergarden and/or will use local city transport to go to work. Volunteer will be provided with monthly pocket and food money and they will buy and prepare their own meals.



Risk Prevention, Protection and Safety

Our working environment is very friendly and supporting and the volunteer will have support from his/her tutor, mentor and coordinating organisation.

Vaida Kindergarten Pillerpall will ensure:

- that the volunteer work is safe and it has been assessed for risk
- that every effort is made that project meets high health and safety standards
- that the volunteer is trained and familiar with the volunteering work and have access to adequate safety equipment when needed
- provide a mentor for volunteer, to whom she can turn in case of problems, doubts, concerns, etc.
- ensure regular meetings with project supervisor to discuss the course of EVS project and see where the shortcomings are and how potential problems can be resolved.
- that the volunteer will get all the practical and psychological support from the organisations's staff or from professionals
- that in case of crises it will be dealt at once with full seriousness on high professional level with the use of all previous experiences collected during decade of dealing with EVS projects.

MTÜ EstYES offers also extra training seminars and gatherings where volunteers can take part and share their impressions and experiences with other volunteers and local community.