

Tallinn Kindergarten Südameke



Organisation description

Tallinn Kindergarten Sūdameke has been working since September 1957. In 2003, the institution moved to its current location at Pärnu St. 109a in the centre of Tallinn. In September 2017 Tallinn Kindergarten Sūdameke will be celebrating its 60th birthday.

Currently the kindergarten has eight groups. In four of which the language of study is Estonian and in four it is Russian. Each group has proper equipment based on the age group of the children. Due to the great attention paid to integration the kindergarten has groups to facilitate both Estonian and Russian speaking children. This allows children to attend events that are in the language they are not currently being taught in with some



events being led by people alternating between the two languages. For us it is important that integration happens through games and daily activities making it suitable for children of all ages. The kindergarten has a big yard that has been renewed in recent years providing opportunities for learning and playing outdoors on daily basis. For activities children can also use the hall and the fairytale room. Also kindergarten has allocated many resources toward buying I-pads, interactive boards, cameras etc. in order to bring variety into the daily activities of the children. The kindergarten also has its own newspaper.

Two of our groups use "Free of bullying" and "Persona Dolls" methodology. All eight groups also employ the minute of silence methodology on a daily basis. Kindergarten Sūdameke belongs to a network of kindergartens aiming to educate children on health issues. Volunteers will be working with a group of children between the ages of 3 and 7.

The kindergarten is open 7-19.00 on weekdays but the group where the volunteer will work is open 8-18.00. Everyday before lunch children have learning activities, study trips or playtime. From 13.00-15.00 younger children are resting and preschoolers are doing activities that will prepare them for school. In the afternoon children have playtime or extracurricular activities led by third parties.

Our vision:

Tallinn Kindergarten Sūdameke is highly appreciated by parents as a wise guide in the development and growth of a happy child.

Our mission:

We provide a caring and child-centered learning environment which shows commitment to the propagation of a healthy life-style and fosters the children`s natural thirst for knowledge.

More information about Tallinn Kindergarten Sūdameke is available on our website:

<http://www.tallinn.ee/sudameke/>

Project context

The activities will take place in Tallinn, the capital of Estonia with a population of over 400 000, mainly on the site of the kindergarten.

Proposed activities

The volunteer will carry out a language course in their mother tongue and socialise with kids. The volunteer will help to instruct the activities in the kindergarten group: playing, singing, practical activities such as drawing and social interaction. The volunteer will participate in trips to nature, museums, cinema etc. The volunteer will be participating in the health-group work to help promote a healthy lifestyle. The volunteer can participate in all activities and offer their ideas and creative thoughts in dealing with children. In coordination with the teacher, the volunteer will also have the chance to put on performances, organise sport activities and competitions or other similar activities with the children.

Profile of Volunteer and Recruitment Process

The selection process will be carried out by our kindergarten in cooperation with our coordinating organisation MTÜ Noortevahetuse Arengu Ühing EstYES.

We will be pleased to get applications for participation from anyone who:

- is motivated
- is between ages 18-30
- wants to work with children from ages 2-7
- is prepared physically and mentally to work with children at the ages 2-7
- is prepared to communicate children with different cultural backgrounds.

Previous working experience is not required.

Support

Accommodation will be arranged by the coordinating organisation MTÜ Noortevahetuse Arengu Ühing EstYES . The volunteer will be placed in a flat that corresponds to basic Estonian living standards. The volunteer will have either single or share a double room and common rooms: an equipped kitchen, WC, shower/bathroom and a living room. Normally, in Tallinn, volunteers share a flat with other international volunteers and use local city transport for commuting to work. The volunteer will be provided with monthly pocket and food money and will be expected to buy and prepare their own meals. On working days, they will also have the opportunity to eat lunch in the kindergarten.

After arrival to their projects the volunteers will be introduced to their work and tasks by their tutor who will be providing task related support throughout the project. The volunteer will never work alone, they will be always guided by teachers or administrative staff of the kindergarten.

Risk Prevention, Protection and Safety

We try to observe and prevent any problems, conflicts or dangerous situations. In case of any occurring problems we try to solve them through discussions between the parties involved. If necessary we will contact the coordinating organisation EstYES.

Tallinn Kindergarten Südameke will:

- ensure that the volunteer work is safe and has been assessed for risk
- ensure that every effort is made towards the project meeting high health and safety standards
- ensure that the volunteer is trained and familiarised with the volunteering work and have access to adequate safety equipment when needed
- provide a mentor for volunteer, to whom they 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
- ensure that the volunteer will get all the practical support from the organisations's staff

Tallinn Kindergarten Südameke. The coordinating organisation MTÜ Noortevahetuse Arengu Ühing EstYES will support the volunteers in any conflict situation and look for the best possible solution.