

ESC PROJECT IN GERMANY

Freie Schule Brigach – Verein Selbstbestimmtes Lernen e.V.

School for Self-Determined Learning



Hosting organisation: Verein Selbstbestimmtes Lernen e.V. – Freie Schule Brigach

Coordinating organisation: Kreisjugendwerk of the AWO Karlsruhe-Stadt

Location: Villingen-Schwenningen (Brigach)

Project Dates: 09.10.2023 – 31.07.2024

Application Deadline: 01.10.2023

Topics: Non-Formal and Informal Learning, Creativity and Culture, Inclusion - equity

Contact: Elena Degan e.degan@jugendwerk-awo.de

Application rules:

- Please send your CV and motivational letter to: e.degan@jugendwerk-awo.de
- Every application received to a different email address will not be considered.
- **The application deadline is 01.10.2023.** Every application received after the deadline will not be counted.
- Due to the imminent start of the project, we **only accept volunteers who DO NOT need a visa to attend.**
- The starting date is flexible, however, we give **priority to volunteers who are ready to start as soon as possible.**

Project description:

Freie Schule Brigach was founded in 2006. Now, about 30 children - age 6 to 18 - attend the school. Our school broadens and enriches the educational variety in the region of the Black Forest. The educational concept is pretty unique and at the same time meets the requirements of curriculums at state schools.

The concept of our school is not combined to any ideology or religious confession.

The main focus of our educational efforts is the individual child with his or her strengths and skills. The pupils learn in a group of mixed ages. Educational materials support children to learn individually and within their own pace. Children experience democracy, which offers freedom and limits, individuality and community.

The children decide every day how to structure their learning program and the teachers' role is to give input and advices, to support children on their own way of learning.

The core of our concept is the children's self-responsibility. Children are taught to work independently. Teachers are not an authority who know everything, but someone who supports and accompanies children in their process of learning.



Volunteer activities:

- Assistance during classes
- supporting pupils and students at excursions and school trips
- Initiating own workshops and projects (sports, culture, craft, language etc.)



Coordinating organization:

The Kreisjugendwerk (KJW) of the AWO Karlsruhe-Stadt is the Coordinating Organization for this EVS project and responsible for the administrative tasks connected to the project.

www.jugendwerk-awo.de | http://europa.eu/youth/volunteering/organisation/936962868_en

Accommodation, food and transport arrangements:

Volunteers will get accommodation in a shared apartment with other young people in the small city of Villingen-Schwenningen, kitchen and bathroom are shared. Volunteers get a monthly amount of money for food. To ensure regional mobility volunteers get a monthly ticket for public transportation in the county of Schwarzwald-Baar, on workdays from 2 p.m., on weekends and during public school holidays the ticket is also valid in the neighbouring counties of Breisgau Hochschwarzwald, Lörrach, Waldshut and Ortenau.



Villingen-Schwenningen is a beautiful city with an amazing nature surrounding the city. The city is located immersed in the Black Forest, which is a huge forested mountain range which offers a lot of possibilities for activities like hiking, riding bicycles, visiting kales and waterfalls, etc. The closest bigger city is Freiburg.

Training and language course during the project:

The volunteer will take part from the beginning to important introduction seminars where he/she'll receive information about the institution and their duties. There is continuous professional support for

the volunteer. One example of support is regular reflection talks: neutral person from outside of the core group will lead these talks.

To learn the language of the hosting country there is weekly language training at the local adult education center.

The volunteer will take part in two trainings of the National Agency in Germany: the volunteer will attend the On-Arrival-Seminar and the Midterm-Training.



Volunteer profile:

- Volunteers should have an interest in educational work, especially in the concept of **alternative teaching**.
- We expect an open-minded volunteer with an interest in our democratic and alternative school, as well as **openness towards living in a rural area** like the Black Forest.
- In our school we support children to learn independently and self-responsible. The same we expect from the staff and from volunteers. Volunteers should be able to work in a team and should be interested in bringing up own ideas. For **own projects** we provide space, time and assistance.
- We also appreciate if the volunteer has a basic knowledge of **German language**.

Since 2020 every person working in a school is required by law to prove that he/she is vaccinated or immune to measles.

For further question, you can contact the coordinator of the project:

Elena Degan

e.degan@jugendwerk-awo.de

Note: we are not interested on high qualifications, special studies/jobs or high grades. We are usually selecting positive and creative young people strongly motivated in volunteering with us.

Join us! 😊