

JWALA VIDAYA MANDIR SCHOOL BADEGAUN, LATLITPUR NEAR KATHMANDU

April 2013

Jwala Vidaya Mandir School (JVM) is a private, public partnership school located on the SE edge of the Kathmandu Valley

The Placement

This is a teaching placement.

Maximum Number of Volunteers / Minimum Length of placement:

This placement can accommodate up to 2 volunteers at any one time. To be eligible you must be signed up for a minimum of 5 weeks.

Volunteer's Primary Responsibilities:

- To teach English in a creative manner at lower secondary level (classes 5 – 8)
- To organise creative English activities for the older children, e.g. story writing, poetry, reading groups etc

Classes / Student's Ages:

Nursery to class 10

The children's are aged between approx 3 – 17 years old

No of Students at the school:

Approximately 182 students, with class sizes ranging from c13 – 18 children

School Days/Hours:

Sunday – Friday (Friday afternoons activities time)

10:00hrs – 16:00hrs

Summer classes are 45 minutes each and winter classes are 40 minutes. There is a 30 minute break for lunch

School Holidays / Exams 2013 – 2014:

TBC

No Teachers:

Head Teacher – Samir Rai (excellent English)

16 full time teachers + some part time teachers

School Facilities:

Teachers room

Computer lab & library

Outdoor playground area

Playground equipment e.g. swings, seesaw, slide etc

Resources:

The school has whiteboards, plain paper etc. All the children have text books and note books.

Type of Resources Needed:

Chart paper
Coloured paper, pencils etc
Story books
Art & craft materials



Jwala Vidaya Mandir School



Classroom



Playground



Younger kids



Teachers

Note: VSN relies solely on donations for such resources, so please contact us in advance if you are interested in this placement.

Host Family Placement Location, Accommodation & Facilities etc.

Village Name:

Bistachhap

No House Holds in Village:

Approx 60

Ethnic Mix:

Chhetri, Dalit

Elevation:

Approx 1,350 metres

Nearest Large Town/City:

Lagenkhel – approx 9 km

District:

Lalitpur, Kathmandu

Distance from KTM:

Approx 17km

Main Contact Person:

Jaggu Bista (Home Manager) 9841245073

Placement Location:

Bistachhap is beautiful rural village location at the south east end of the Kathmandu Valley. JVM school is approximately a 35 minute walk from the village.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will live with a host family located in the village. All volunteers, unless they chose otherwise will have their own room. All homes will have a toilet (may be an outside squat toilet) and you will probably have to use an outside tap to shower and wash.

Shops:

There are several small shops in the village where volunteers can buy soap, washing powder, shampoo, toothpaste/brushes, drinks, basic snacks such as biscuits, noodles, chocolate, toilet paper etc. For a greater variety, volunteers will need to visit Lagenkhel or Kathmandu.

Health:

The nearest health post is in a village called Mahdevdanda which is approximately a 15 minute walk. For more sophisticated medical treatment volunteers will need to go to Lagenkhel or Kathmandu. Please ensure you pack a comprehensive personal first aid kit, if you are interested in this placement.

Communications & Banks:

All Nepali mobile networks work in Bistachhap. The nearest internet access is in Taukhel, a 15 – 20 minute walk across the rice paddies, unless you chose to bring your own laptop and purchase a local sim-enable, plug-in data card. Some ATMS are available in Taukhel, however for banks and a larger range of ATMs you will have to travel to either Lagenkhel or Kathmandu.

Transport:

It is a two bus journey to get from Thamel (where VSN’s office is) to Bistachhap and it can take up to anything over 2 hours, especially on Saturdays and holidays. First you catch a microbus (like a minibus) from Ratna Park in the centre of the city to Lagenkhel Bus Park. Then you catch the first bus/micro going to Bistachhap, also known as Kitachour. The current prices are approx 15 Rupees Ratna Park to Lagenkhel and 22 Rupees Lagenkhel to Bistachhap.



Additional Project Ideas

For those volunteers who are long-term, there are other optional projects they may wish to initiate alongside working with the school, such as:

- Teaching basic English and numeracy skills in the community,
- Running community health and hygiene workshops
- Get involved with VSN's Brighter Future Children's Home

Essential Volunteer Qualities for this Placement

To succeed in this placement it is essential that you come equipped with the following personality traits and skills sets:

- A sense of adventure
- A sense of humour
- A strong work ethic
- A passion to pass on your own experience and skills to others, so they learn, grow and share these skills
- Endless patience and perseverance
- A love of children
- Enjoy living in a rural setting with few facilities
- Are happy to do without your home comforts
- An ability to work independently with minimal guidance
- To be inventive, resourceful and creative
- To be able to work with limited/minimal supplies – i.e. to be able to create something out of nothing!
- An ability to thrive in an environment where language differences may be an issue
- To embrace a new culture without judgment
- To make an effort with your Nepali in order to increase your communication abilities
- The ability to live and work with little or no privacy
- The desire to succeed

Essential Equipment / Personal Effects

Below are some essential items you will need to bring with you should you consider this placement. This list is not exhaustive by any means, and please remember the more you bring, the more you may well have to carry if you are required to walk in / out.

- Sleeping bag (lightweight for summer months, warm for winter months)
- Warm jacket, hat, scarf etc. (winter months)
- A set or lightweight waterproofs and umbrella (summer months – umbrella all seasons)
- A set of sturdy well worn-in walking shoes or boots
- A pair of sandals or flip flops
- Head torch and extra batteries
- Water bottle and water purifying drops such as Piyus (very cheap and easily available in KTM)
- Mosquito net (for summer). Cheap and easily available in KTM
- Comprehensive personal first aid kit
- Feminine hygiene products (girls only!)
- Cigarette lighter to burn your toilet paper with
- Camera
- Books, cards, games, iPod etc to keep you occupied during the evenings as it gets dark between 18:00hrs – 19:30hrs depending on the time of year
- An old mobile handset and charger if you wish to buy a local sim card
- Teaching materials/ideas