



# TEACHING IN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

**VIN's Teaching English at Community School** project is an opportunity for volunteers or interns to take an active role in the Nepali classroom. Our volunteers help teaching English in community schools and supporting the students in using their new skills.

The acquisition of the English Language is a vital skill for the Nepali people. It gives them a voice and offers them a chance to change their future. Our teaching volunteers will work with the school's existing English teacher who will provide classroom curricular and assistance with teaching methods and language barriers. At the same time the volunteer will help the English teacher to develop their own language skills.



## **Teach Basic Computer Skills** – Bring Digital Information Technologies

Help spread the power of essential computer skills through VIN's teaching Computer Science Program. For most of us, using Microsoft Word, Excel, or even everyday tools such as Facebook, Google, and Skype may be a walk in the park. Something many of us take for granted. Yet, for marginalized communities in Nepal it means connection to the world beyond. As a Computer Science Volunteer Teacher, you'll help open new doors of hope and opportunity through information and communication technologies.

## **Inspire Creative Expression with Arts and Crafts**

Do you love working with children? Do you find joy seeing their creativity come to light as they learn new means to express themselves? Then volunteering as a teacher of arts and crafts is for you. As a volunteer you'll work directly with children and inspire them to reach their full potential through creative expression. Through self-expression, children can begin to connect and see the world in new ways. You can join the classrooms and teach the children and the young teenagers! Teach them something cool, something fun, and something creative. Teach them whatever it is that you know and you do best! Photography, writing, drawing, theater, poetry, dance, arts and craft, and music: any subject that you chose to teach is yours to share with these beautiful children. Most importantly, having fun, being encouraging, and telling each and every child the reason that they are magnificent and worthwhile is something you can do on a daily basis. It is so special and you will never regret your decision to come here.

## **Give a Voice by Teaching the Deaf in Nepal**

Are you fluent in sign language? Do you have background working in deaf education? This is your chance to utilize your skills and give a voice to deaf students in Nepal. Together we can empower the deaf children / youth in Nepal by giving them the training and resources they need to learn and grow through life.

We know that all children, including those with additional disabilities, deserve care and access to education. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child specify that children who have any kind of disability should receive special care and support so that they can live a full and independent life. Children also have a right to an education, regardless of which country they were born in. In Nepal however, there is still a lot of discrimination, lack of knowledge about Deaf people's rights and stigma associated with disabilities. Children are not receiving the education and support that they need. Here in Kathmandu there is a school for deaf children and we can use the support of people like you to volunteer for deaf people, to help improve the lives of our deaf youth.

## Elevate Mind-Body Harmony by Teaching Yoga

Do you love the power of Yoga? Is it a practice you cannot live without? Would you like to share your passion for yoga with others? Through VIN's Yoga Program you can help bring this timeless mindfulness art to people of Nepal. As a Yoga Teacher volunteer, you won't just be teaching posture techniques, you'll enable others to find mind and body harmony while elevating their mindfulness. Despite Nepal's proximity to India, Yoga is not wide-spread here. Yoga is often perceived as a western luxury, far from its original form; bringing a state of awareness from where we can see our own divinity. Yoga can help to manage stress, provide periods of rest and reflection, promote joint and muscle flexibility and provide a place from which people can find self-worth, leading to a positive daily attitude and physical health.

## Share Your Passion for Sports with Children of Nepal

Do you love playing sports? Do you enjoy working with children? As a Sports Volunteer you'll help children and underprivileged communities gain physical and mental health through the fun of sports. You can teach any sport you like to help underprivileged children and communities of Nepal. You can teach the sport of your choice and will work up to six hours a day, six days a week. The children will be aged from 6 to 16 and what they lack in know-how, they will make up in enthusiasm.

## What are the requirements?

We do not ask that our volunteers be native English speakers. We do ask that they are flexible, with a positive attitude and a willingness to learn. During the placement you will teach two to three hours per day, six days a week. Nepali government school age is between 6 and 16 years old and class sizes can range from 10 to 50 children.

**Nepali community schools** can be unpredictable. It is not uncommon for them to be closed due to holidays, exams and other circumstances, e.g. strikes. During these times volunteers will be asked to teach in the community, helping those who are financially unable to attend school.

The schools within the communities are public, funded in part by the government and owned within the community. In theory, the government commit to provide teachers in community schools based on a ratio of 1:40. In practice, in the sparsely populated rural areas, there are not enough children to make this quota. The government do not supply the teacher, so the community must provide their own.

Commonly, many of the teachers working in public schools are unqualified and untrained. Most teaching takes the style of a lecture, requiring that the children copy from a blackboard. Ultimately, the children are taught to repeat facts and figures parrot-style, without deeper understanding, so they are unable to effectively use what they 'learn'.

### Teaching deaf children

15/01/2017 to 04/02/2017

Volunteer Testimonial: Laura Manzone

"My days spent in Sindhuli will stay in my heart forever. This is due to the kindness of the people I meet once there. When I get them, I can say it was a small "shock" because the gap between the lifestyle in Kathmandu and in Sindhuli is pretty big; I was ready to have basic facilities, a lot of Dal Bhat and a different kind of life, but living the situation is different from just knowing about that. What I want to say is that maybe this experience could be challenging at first, but then it'll be very rewarding. Once I get to the deaf school, seeing people using sign language to communicate and big smiles on everybody's faces, I realized I was in the right place where I should be. Everybody was super kind with me and we all know that people can make the difference. I'm happy to have had this opportunity to volunteer there, because what I've back is something that is not possible to find in any books. It's just the big book about my life that's been enriched a lot by this experience".

