

ESC volunteering at “StudentInnenkinderhort”

What is the StudentInnenkinderhort?

The StudentInnenkinderhort is organized by the “Verein StudentInnenkinder” (Association for Students’ children) and located in the AKH Campus (University Campus in the 9th district in Vienna). It is divided into a kindergarten and a day nursery (Hort) for children between the age of six to ten.

We believe that only in a respectful environment, a child can develop his/her full self and his/her creativity. In our long history, we build on and continue the tradition of an education without fear of authorities to ensure that the education of humanity continue to succeed.

As a volunteer, you will work at the Hort. The opening hours of the Hort are Monday to Friday from 12 to 6 p.m., this will be your working hours.

Proposed activities

During the opening hours a volunteer should be present and interact with the children. You bring your own knowledge and experience from your cultural background. This can be music, dance, tales, cooking receipts, games, sports etc. According to your personal preferences you make the children familiar with your background. Generally, a volunteer’s work consists of the following:

- ✓ Work with the children in their leisure time
- ✓ if necessary: help with the homework
- ✓ Attend the regular program meetings of the staff and the children, where the programme of activities is defined
- ✓ Be part of the team: team meetings, once per week and meetings with parents once per month

An afternoon starts with a common meal, cooked by our own cook, followed by 1-2 hours where the children do their homework. After that, leisure time activities start: mostly outdoors, also indoors if the weather is bad. During the opening hours, two members of the full-time staff are always present. So you will never be left alone with the children.

Leisure time activities can be:

- ✓ Sports, such as swimming, football, gymnastics, ice skating. (depending on the time of year); if you are specialized in a certain sport, it would be great, if you could teach the children; sports activities are always on Tuesday
- ✓ Creative workshops like painting, drawing, baking cookies or practising for a theatre play
- ✓ Children can also play for themselves

You can participate in an existing program or lead a workshop by yourself (together with the staff) on a topic with which you are familiar and interested in.

Two weeks per year (winter and summer) there is a holiday excursion outside Vienna. During this time, you make sure, that the children have a good time. The activities depend on the season and weather: hiking/skiing, swimming, board games, barbeque etc. You can help prepare these weeks, e.g. inventing games and activities, help with practical organisational matters or cooking together with the kids and staff. The excursion is also an opportunity to see other parts of Austria.

Volunteer profile and recruitment process

In the project StudentInnenkinderhort no specific skills are needed. A volunteer should in general be openminded, interested in sports and outdoor activities and enjoy working with children. A creative spirit or language skills can be of advantage but are not necessarily needed.

The ESC in Vienna is coordinated by Grenzenlos within the MELANGE program. If you are interested, you fill in the Melange application form and send it together with your CV (curriculum vitae) and the details of your supporting organisation to Grenzenlos: application@melange.at

They will forward your documents to the hosting project (in our case to StudentInnenkinderhort) where the selection will be made.

All available placements of Grenzenlos ESC projects are open to everyone (fulfilling the general ESC criteria). However, in the selection procedure a preference is shown for candidates with fewer opportunities. You will be informed about the outcome of the recruitment process after the application deadline. For more information, please visit www.melange.at

