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# VOLUNTEERING IN A MONTESSORI SCHOOL



## EXPERIENCE CHILD-BASED, STRESS-FREE SCHOOLING

Apply for a 6-month project  
in Telfs, Tyrol, Austria!

Volunteering starts in January 2022

# Hosting organisation

Schulgarten – Aktive Montessorischule Telfs

[www.schulgarten.at](http://www.schulgarten.at)

Located in Telfs, Austria

Schulgarten – Aktive Montessorischule Telfs will be hosting three volunteers at the same time in 2022. One volunteer will be active in the "Primaria 1" (with 6- to 9-year-olds), one in the "Primaria 2" (with 9- to 12-year-olds), and one in the "Sekundaria" (with 12- to 15-year-olds).



## Some info on the hosting organisation:

- \* We live "green": Our School is situated amidst the Tyrolean mountains Alps, is located at the edge of the town Telfs in western Tyrol and is surrounded by green fields. All seasons offer great opportunities for sports, outdoor activities, but also easy to reach close-by cultural events in Innsbruck, the capital of Tyrol, and sightseeing possibilities within Austria and neighbouring countries.
- \* We work actively: Our huge garden is a learning field as well as an adventurous and recreational playground for our children. One day a week teaching takes place outdoor in the surrounding forests, using the offerings of nature for learning and exploring.
- \* We teach child-based: Momentarily, our school hosts 74 children aged 6 to 15. Each one of them is treated like an intelligent, emotional and mature human being and is coached based on personal possibilities, abilities and interests by our pedagogic team (12 teachers).
- \* We coach stress-free: Our children learn free of pressure and over-stress. They are allowed to have their individual pace in learning, achieving and implementing. And all within the pedagogic thoughts of Maria Montessori: "As much freedom as possible, as much structure as necessary."

# Coordinating organisation & Funding

The coordinating organisation of this project is InfoEck (Verein Generationen und Gesellschaft), an info centre in Innsbruck. InfoEck coordinates six volunteers in the region of Tyrol and assists the hosting organisations by overseeing the administration, finances and the quality control of the project.

InfoEck has submitted this project to the Austrian National Agency of the European Solidarity Corps programme. We will know whether it will be granted and funded in December 2021. We are optimistic, due to good experiences in the past. The EU, InfoEck and Schulgarten will finance this volunteering project. The only possible financial contribution that the selected volunteer may need to make is to pay a small share of the travel costs.

The responsible coordinator is ready to answer open questions and to prepare the project with Schulgarten, the selected volunteer and the supporting sending organisation. The coordinator's name is Elisabeth Summerauer: [international@infoeck.at](mailto:international@infoeck.at) (send applications to Schulgarten, not to Elisabeth!).

More info about InfoEck:

Website [www.infoeck.at/volunteer](http://www.infoeck.at/volunteer)

[Instagram InfoEck - Jugendinfo Tirol](#)

[Facebook InfoEck - Jugendinfo Tirol](#)

[Youtube InfoEck - Jugendinfo Tirol](#)



## Location, Housing, Money

Schulgarten – Aktive Montessorischule Telfs is located in the town Telfs, with about 15.000 inhabitants. It is a small town. There is good infrastructure, opportunities of outdoors and sports, basic shops etc. The regional capital Innsbruck can be reached in 30 minutes via train/bus. Public transport is easily accessible and well organized. The volunteer will be supported to receive a ticket valid for the public transport in the region of Tirol.

We offer a flat for our volunteers. Each volunteer has his/her own room and there are shared facilities, kitchen, living room and bathroom. Transportation to work is not needed, everything is within walking-distance. Local people speak a German dialect ("Tirolerisch"). The majority of people in Tyrol can speak English, especially young people.

The volunteer will receive sufficient monthly food money and EUR 150,- of pocket money.



# Tasks & Activities of the volunteer



Each volunteer will be engaged in a variety of tasks and activities, 35 hours per week, on five days per week from Monday to Friday. The volunteer will be supported by a multi-professional team in the school.

- The first target group is called Primaria 1, here are 6- to 9-year-old children that go to the school. There are 30 children this school year.
- The second target group is called Primaria 2. We teach 22 children in our Primaria 2 group, they are aged 9 to 12 years.
- The third target group is called Sekundaria, they are 12 to 15 years old. There are 22 juveniles this year.

Please tell us, if you prefer Primaria 1, Primaria 2 or Sekundaria.

The tasks and activities of the volunteer can encompass the following:

- Active participation in the daily routines of our school day (lessons, outdoor activities, nature day is once a week, leisure time, project-based work, creative projects...),
- Face-to-face coaching of the children according to our school concept,
- Accompanying the children on excursions (museums, cultural events, ...) and to sports activities (skiing, climbing, ...),
- Arranging the daily learning environment,
- Bring in her/his own talents, creative ideas, skills, own cultural background and language (cooking local dishes, handy-crafts, music, ...),
- Taking part in our weekly team meetings and meetings with the tutor,
- Attending our parent-teacher conference evenings, held six times a year,
- Creating and implementing a personal project with professional support,
- Participating in the activities organised by InfoEck.



# Profile of the volunteer

We would be happy to host a volunteer who:

- wants to experience working with school children aged 6 to 9 years or aged 12-15 years,
- is eager to participate actively,
- is interested in learning more about another culture and different backgrounds,
- is open-minded, friendly, enthusiastic, creative and communicative,
- is willing to work in an interdisciplinary team and reflect her/his work,
- is motivated to learn German (and some Tyrolean German dialect),
- brings her/his own culture and interests into the project,
- is ready to volunteer for 6 months starting in January 2022.

You can apply for this project if you live in an EU country, Iceland, Liechtenstein, or Norway. Only for people between 18 and 30 years. The volunteer must not have any other occupation on the side while volunteering. (You cannot study, work, be in training etc. at the same time.)

We are open to host volunteers with different backgrounds and especially encourage participants with fewer opportunities to send their application.



## Project Duration

6 Months; Expectedly from 10. January 2022 and lasts until 15. July 2022.

As the project and funding is still pending for approval by the Austrian National Agency, these dates may change. We ask you to be committed to participate the whole duration, it's important for the project, your own learning development and for the hosting organisation!



# Support during the project

The volunteers will have regular meetings with her or his external mentors and the tutor Angelika Widauer at the hosting organisation, to talk about the wellbeing or about the project activities. In the hosting organisation the volunteers will receive orientation and support for the activities from the main responsible employee and from the entire team.

The coordinating organisation InfoEck will hold regular group meetings with all volunteers in Tyrol in order to share experiences, give support to one another and to stay connected. Volunteers are involved in common projects and will receive a German course. The volunteers will get to know other volunteers from various countries and will be invited to participate in occasional free-time activities.

At the end of the project, we will evaluate together with the volunteers and look at what they have learned and which competences they gained and as a result the volunteer can fill in the Youthpass certificate.

## How to apply

To apply, please send your

- **Motivation letter (very important for us),**
  - **your CV,**
- **and the enclosed APPLICATION FORM.**

to Mrs. Angelika Widauer from the Schulgarten Telfs via e-mail: [familie@widauer.eu](mailto:familie@widauer.eu)  
Please tell us, if you prefer Primaria 1, Primaria 2 or Sekundaria.

Option: You can additionally send something creative to express your motivation  
(this is not demanded, but it can be a plus).

The deadline to apply is the 1st December 2021 at 23:59.  
Only complete applications via e-mail will be considered.  
Please do NOT apply online via the Solidarity Corps Portal!

Mrs. Widauer will get in touch with the applicants after the deadline, so check your e-mail regularly. A few applicants will be invited for a skype or zoom talk. The final decision will be taken about two weeks later by the Schulgarten and all applicants will be informed about their status.

We are waiting to hear from you!

Embrace the challenge. Be open to leaving your comfort zone several times. Be curious about yourself and others and ready to meet inspiring people.  
Try new things and learn for a lifetime!