

Athlone Children's Home

The Children's Home provides full-time care for up to 49 babies and children from 0 - 5 years old. The children are either neglected, abandoned, abused or orphaned and are accepted at the home irrespective of HIV status, race or gender.



Highlights

- Your willingness to assist and gain experience is very rewarding for both you and the children.
- Giving love is the best gift you can give, sharing this costs nothing but means the world.
- Teach kids about your country, your culture and learn more about theirs.
- Spend your days playing with kids in the South African sun.
- Experience amazing tours and adventures in and around Cape Town.
- Get personal support from the volunteer coordinator.
- Make new friends from all over the world.

Overview

Location	Athlone, Cape Town, South Africa
Duration	8 weeks minimum
Dates	all year round from mid-January to mid-December
Requirements	upper intermediate level of English Skills: its an advantage to have worked with children before
Minimum age	18
Documents	enrollment form, curriculum vitae, letter of motivation, passport copy, proof of medical insurance, police clearance certificate
Date of arrival	Thursday
Date of dep.	Saturday

Project Information

Athlone Children's Home provides full-time care for 49 abandoned, abused and neglected children from birth to 5 years old, irrespective of race, religion or HIV status. It strives to create a warm, friendly environment where the children can grow emotionally, physically and socially. The home is registered with the Department of Social Development and receives a subsidy for each child they care for. Through the assistance received from volunteers, they are able to provide these children with much needed individual attention. They care for the children until they can be placed back with their families, or sometimes with foster families; however, in certain cases where home circumstances have not improved or no suitable foster families have been found, they are transferred to other children's homes.

In order to facilitate the process of reintegrating the children into the community, a weekend and holiday hosting programme is run. Families and individuals who have been screened take one or more children out for the day, weekend or holiday.

They have an onsite school for the older children, which they attend every weekday. Three teachers run the school, with the assistance of volunteers. A panel of volunteer doctors regularly examines and treats the children when they are ill. Children who indicate behavioral or developmental problems receive specialised care from various clinics in the area.

Your Role

Monday – Friday (Wednesday is off), from 08:30 – 17:00.

Depending on which age group you are placed with, you assist with the following:

- Feeding, bathing, dressing.
- Arranging of age-appropriate indoor and outdoor activities.
- Help with play sessions, games and outings for smaller groups of children.
- Accompany children on doctor's/hospital visits.
- Assist with tidying children's bedrooms.

You will also get to go along with children on special outings arranged for them and you may also arrange outings for children themselves.

It is important to note that this description serves as an example only. The daily tasks and challenges depend on the volunteer and the work that needs to be done. The final job description can therefore vary substantially from the above.

Accommodation

You will live at the Volunteer House. It is a private house in an upmarket residential area and consists of rooms with 2 single beds and 2 bunk beds. There are 4 bathrooms to share, a communal kitchen, a dining room, a lounge with TV and DVD and a beautiful garden with a swimming pool. A commercial laundry service is close by. Bedding is provided. Towels are not provided.

Prices

Project fee 2017

8 weeks: € 2.653

Additional week: € 253

Included

- Project placement
- Airport transfer on arrival
- Accommodation (Volunteer House: shared room, shared bathroom, self-catering)
- Daily transfer to and from the project
- Full-day excursion on the first Saturday (not included if combined with a language course)
- A donation towards the project
- Welcome pack
- Weekly site visits by our coordinator
- Orientation meeting
- Participation in the activities of the Social Club (extra charges may apply)
- Electronic certificate (printed copy on request)
- Local support including a 24 hour emergency number
- WiFi

Not included

- Food
- Local transport
- Any items of personal nature