Volunteer Application Questionnaire

The purpose of this questionnaire is to ensure that EducAid is the right fit for you, and that you are the right fit for EducAid.

We hope that we will be able to gain some insight in to your personality, and ability to operate in an environment such as Sierra Leone. It may also prompt some questions for you about living and working in a school environment.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Personal Information | |
| 1 | What is your full name? |
|  |
| 2 | What is your email address? |
|  |
| 3 | Please provide the name of a trusted point of contact in the UK |
|  |
| 4 | Please provide your point of contact’s email address |
|  |
| 5 | Please provide your point of contact’s phone number |
|  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Volunteering in Sierra Leone | |
| 1 | Why do you want to volunteer with EducAid? |
|  |
| 2 | Why EducAid rather than another organisation? |
|  |
| 3 | Why Sierra Leone, rather than any other country? |
|  |
| 4 | What do I expect to get out of my time volunteering with EducAid? |
|  |
| 5 | What gifts/experience do I have to give and contribute in EducAid? |
|  |
| 6 | What things are difficult at home? |
|  |
| 7 | Am I trying to escape from difficult things at home? |
|  |
| 8 | Am I ready to make a commitment to work for a particular period of time? |
|  |
| 9 | Am I ready to see myself as part of a team and work to build team spirit and cooperation? |
|  |
| 10 | Am I ready to be a reliable member of the team? |
|  |
| 11 | Am I able to love, respect and serve people with a completely different culture from my own? |
|  |
| 12 | How will you make a point to learn from those you serve while volunteering in Sierra Leone? |
|  |
| 13 | What will I do if a new Sierra Leonean friend I trust steals from me or lets me down? |
|  |
| 14 | How will you cope with loneliness? |
|  |
| 15 | What strategies will you employ if you find yourself missing home? |
|  |
| 16 | Am I able to cope with my motives and intentions being misunderstood by those I have come to serve? |
|  |
| 17 | Am I able to spend the period in Sierra Leone without an exclusive or sexual relationship? |
|  |
| 18 | What will I do if approached by a Sierra Leonean wanting an exclusive or sexual relationship? |
|  |
| 19 | What will I do if I find that a friendship with a Sierra Leonean might be developing towards becoming an exclusive or sexual relationship? |
|  |
| 20 | Can I live on less than £100 per month? |
|  |
| 21 | If I am a smoker, can I ensure I am never ever seen smoking by a Sierra Leonean student? |
|  |
| 22 | What do I think I could learn from being with EducAid and in Sierra Leone? |
|  |
| 23 | What do my family and friends think of my volunteering with EducAid? |
|  |
| 24 | Am I able to take responsibility for myself financially for the period? |
|  |
| 25 | Am I able to be emotionally independent enough to have something to give? |
|  |
| 26 | Am I able to live with very basic conditions, unwanted insects, limited range of food choices, possible upset stomachs, and difficult public transport and still have something to give? |
|  |
| 28 | Which of the following words most closely corresponds to my expectations of my period with EducAid? adventure; challenge; service; excitement; solitude; escape; hard work; experience; discovery; other. |
|  |
| 29 | I engage to refrain from singling out individuals for special attention in terms of gifts, offers of special assistance etc without first discussing with Miriam. |
|  |

Through this questionnaire, we aim to help you identify your motivations and to decide whether this is really the right use of your energies. Volunteering comes in all shapes and sizes, so we want you to make sure that you are making the right choice. We also hope too that it will help to prepare you ain the case of difficult or untenable situations should you decide to come.

We hope that now you have answered these questions, you are even more compelled to join us in Sierra Leone and to embark on what is always a truly unique and wholly fulfilling experience.

Best Regards,

The EducAid team.