



Dansk ICYE

International Cultural Youth Exchange

ICYE Denmark

Work Profile 2024-2025



Dear Volunteer,

Greetings from Denmark!

In this Work Profile we offer you information about the project types available within ICYE Denmark in the programme year 2023-2024.

ICYE Denmark offer project placements where you work with children or youth. The projects contain different activities for various age groups.

Children and leisure

- [Kindergarten \(aged 3-6\)](#)
- [After school activity centre \(aged 6-10\)](#)

Teaching and education

- [Primary and secondary schools teaching assistant \(aged 6-16\)](#)
- [Efterskole – a Danish boarding school \(aged 14-18\)](#)
- [High school teaching assistant \(aged 15-20\)](#)

Please read the projects' profiles carefully to consider which types of projects you find the most interesting.

Some project types have restrictions depending on the volunteer's age or English skills. It is also a good idea to consider which projects or project areas your competences and skills can contribute to the working environment.

Attached you find a project priority list, where we would like you to prioritize your wishes and give us a small motivational statement on why you are interested in the respective type of project. We cannot guarantee you will be offered your first priority.



We hope you will find our projects interesting, and that you are interested in coming to Denmark. Danes are known to be a bit reserved, but when you get here, you easily become part of the Danish “hygge”; a term that covers many good things – with which you will become familiar once you arrive in Denmark.

You can read more about Denmark and what to expect about the culture in our National Profile.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

General information

ICYE Denmark can only give you general information about each project type in the Work Profile.

The typical tasks for each project type will be described in this document. The individual projects may have various additional tasks, which is still relevant for their daily operation.

ICYE Denmark cooperates with many different kindergartens, schools, after school activity centres, youth clubs, "efterskoler", and high schools all over Denmark.



Location

In this Work Profile we cannot tell you where the project is located. Once a specific project is interested in welcoming you as a volunteer at their institution, we can tell you where in Denmark you will live.

Age

To volunteer in Denmark, you will have to be over the age of 18 and under the age of 31 when arriving. Once you have turned 31, you can no longer apply. This is due to the regulations for applying for a volunteer visa in Denmark.

Motivations

If you are interested in working as a volunteer at a Danish project, please fill out the project priority list and let us know why you are motivated to work at those three types of projects.

It is important that you fill in all three possibilities in the priority list, as we cannot guarantee a placement for you at your first priority.

The priority list will help us find a project suitable for your interests and skills.

Deadlines

Communication with a possible project for you and application for visa takes time. This is why the deadlines for applications are as follows:

ARRIVAL
August
January

APPLICATION DEADLINE
April 1st
October 1st



Kindergarten

Children aged 3-6

In Denmark, most families make use of kindergartens for their children between the age of 3 to 6.

The children attend the kindergarten every Monday through Friday where trained staff take care of the children during the day.

A volunteer is a great help in a Danish kindergarten as an extra help for the staff and the children. The volunteer's presence will help make the children aware of other cultures and countries at a young age.

At a glance...

Volunteer age	18 - 30
Danish (or English) skills required	● ● ○ ○ ○
Work with young children (aged 3-6)	● ● ● ● ●
Work with older children (aged 6-12)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Work with teenagers (aged 12-18)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Working outdoors	● ● ● ● ○



Main activities

Taking care of children is the main task in a kindergarten. Staff spend time with the children during the day, engaging them in different activities and making sure their needs are taken care of. Sometimes the staff merely supervise the children while the children play on their own.

Some activities take place inside the kindergarten house, but the children will also have to spend time outside every day. This is both the case when the sun is shining, but also when it is raining or snowing.

The staff of the kindergarten, including the volunteer, will accompany the children outside - also in rainy and cold weather.

Volunteer tasks

The volunteer's biggest task will be to interact with the children. This could be done through colouring and painting, singing, storytelling, reading stories out loud, and other creative activities. Outdoor activities are a big part of most kindergartens, such as playing ball games, playing hide and seek, being in the sandbox, running around the playground, or other activities.

As a volunteer from another culture, you can also organise activities based on your country and language, e.g. teaching the older kids to count to ten in your mother tongue, serving traditional dishes, or playing games you know from home.





During the day you may help prepare fruit or other snacks for the children, help a child get dressed for the weather outside by helping them get into their raincoat, rain trousers, and rain boots, help to comfort an upset child, supervise the children who are playing or participate in the games yourself.

Be aware, that due to the many hours children and staff spend outside, it is important for you to bring/buy warm clothes and rainproof jackets and shoes. This is your own responsibility.

Volunteer requirements/skills

To work in a Danish kindergarten, it is important that the volunteer:

- Is independent - take initiative and show interest in the children
- Enjoys working with smaller children
- Is creative in their work with children
- Enjoys being outdoors
- Would like to live in a rural area or small town, as most of the projects are situated in such.

Accommodation

Host family.

After School Activity Centre

"SFO"

Children aged 6-10

After School Activity Centres "SFO" are open to children from 6 to 10 years old. The children come to the centre before and/or after school, while their parents are at work.

The SFO is usually a part of the local school. Trained staff arrange activities for the children, and a volunteer would be a good help in an SFO. By having a volunteer join the SFO, the project wishes to give the children an understanding of other cultures and countries already at a young age.

At a glance...

Volunteer age	18 - 30
Danish (or English) skills required	● ● ○ ○ ○
Work with young children (aged 3-6)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Work with older children (aged 6-12)	● ● ● ● ●
Work with teenagers (aged 12-18)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Working outdoors	● ● ○ ○ ○

Main activities

The children at the SFO play sports, do crafts, play computer games, play board games, draw, play music, and do other activities together. Sometimes they just hang out with their friends.

At the SFO the staff spends time with the children, either by suggesting activities for the children, participating in the activity, or supervising the activity.

Volunteer tasks

As a volunteer in an SFO your main task is spending time with the children. Different activities are available for the children, and you are expected to take part in some of these activities.



If you play an instrument, have computer skills, play soccer, or have any other qualifications or skills, you will have the opportunity to arrange an activity for the children. Helping with homework might also be relevant in an SFO. Activities based on your nationality and background will also be useful for the children, as they benefit from knowing more about different cultures and countries. This could be by presenting games you know from home, cook snacks for the children from your culture, or simply tell them about schools and playing in your country.

Some activities in an SFO may take place outside. This is especially the case during the summer or when the weather is nice, though some activities may also take place outside

when the weather is colder.

Volunteer requirements/skills

To work in a Danish SFO it is important that the volunteer:

- Is independent - take initiative and show interest in the children
- Enjoys working with children
- Is creative in their work with children
- Is flexible and understanding in relation to the different daily tasks and activities of the SFO
- Would like to live in a rural area or small town, as most of the projects are situated in such.



Accommodation

Host family.

Primary and Secondary School

Children aged 6-16

In Denmark, education is mandatory for children between the ages of 6 to 16.

Bigger schools range from 0th grade (pre-school) to 9th grade. 10th grade is optional and will, in most places, be offered at a different educational centre.

Smaller schools may only have students from 0th to 6th grade, where the students from 7th to 9th grade have to attend a bigger school nearby.

At a glance...

Volunteer age	18 - 30
Danish (or English) skills required	● ● ● ○ ○
Work with young children (aged 3-6)	● ● ● ● ○
Work with older children (aged 6-12)	● ● ● ○ ○
Work with teenagers (aged 12-18)	● ● ○ ○ ○
Working outdoors	● ○ ○ ○ ○

The children attend the school every Monday through Friday where trained teachers and supplementary staff teach the children various subjects. Before and after school, the younger children can attend an after-school activity centre (SFO) while their parents are at work.

Main activities

Trained teachers lead the classes. Each teacher has their own main subjects to teach, which means, the students will be taught different classes by different teachers throughout the day. Each class will have a main teacher, the "klasselærer", who teaches at least one main subject for the class and has a focus on the well-being of the students in that specific room.



The students have smaller breaks throughout the day and one bigger break during lunch.

Special classes, such as physics, chemistry, crafts, cooking, sports, and similar, may be taught in other rooms in the school, suitable for the needs of the subject, rather than in the students' main room.

In many schools, sports classes take place outside during spring, summer, and

autumn - typically late March until mid-October.

Volunteer tasks

As a volunteer, you will be supporting the teachers in the classrooms. You will not be teaching classes on your own, but supporting the class while the teacher leads the lesson.

Your presence will especially be valuable in English lessons, as the students can practice with you. You can also be helpful in sports classes, cooking classes, crafts classes, or as a general help during different projects in the classes.

The school may ask you to support the staff at the after-school activity centre "SFO" and your tasks will be divided between the school and the SFO. Read more about SFO on "After School Activity Centre "SFO"" on [page 6](#).

As a volunteer from another culture, you could also organise activities based on your country and language, e.g. teaching the students words and sentences in your mother tongue, serving traditional dishes or playing games you know from home - if there is a relevant time to do so in relation to the lessons.

Volunteer requirements/skills

To work in a Danish school, it is important that the volunteer:

- Is independent- take initiative and show interest in the students
- Enjoys working with smaller and older children
- Is creative in the tasks
- Would like to live in a rural area or small town, as most of the projects are situated in such

Please note

You may mainly be placed with the younger students. We cannot guarantee, that you will be helping the classes with the older students.

Accommodation

Host family.



Efterskole

Youth aged 14-18

An efterskole is a unique Danish residential school, where students from the ages of 14 to 18 can choose to spend one, two or three years to finish their primary education.

Each efterskole is a self-governing, independent institution and it deals with both the educational and personal development of the students. The efterskole embraces a common educational focus on enlightenment for life, general education, and democratic citizenship.

At a glance...

Volunteer age	22 - 30
Danish (or English) skills required	● ● ● ● ○
Work with young children (aged 3-6)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Work with older children (aged 6-12)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Work with teenagers (aged 12-18)	● ● ● ● ●
Working outdoors	● ● ● ○ ○

An efterskole is not a boarding school with school uniforms, but rather a residential school where students have time to develop new skills according to their interests.



Compared to public schools the efterskole has substantial freedom in terms of choice of subjects, teaching methods and educational approach. These vary in accordance with the school's political, religious, or pedagogical orientation.

Efterskoler vary in size, but most have approximately 100 to 150 students.

Main activities

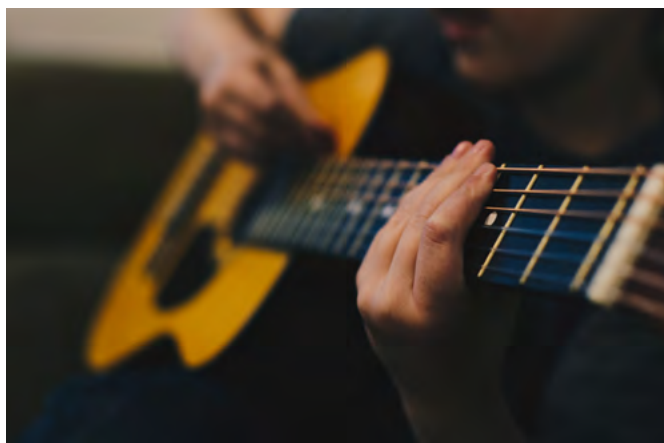
Most efterskoler offer the same subjects and final examinations as the public schools, but many focus on special subjects like physical education, international cooperation, music, theatre, or various kinds of special education.

Both students and most staff live at the efterskole. Many students are also at the school during the weekend, but they have the option of going home to their families if they want.

It is also the duty of the teachers and staff to supervise the students during the afternoon and evenings. These evening duties will also be a part of your tasks. This could be saying goodnight to the students and turning off the lights.

As some students also spend the weekend at the school, there may also be weekend duties for you. These activities will be more casual leisure activities.

You will work an average of 37 hours a week, though some weeks may be more, and some may be less.



Volunteer tasks

As a volunteer, you will be supporting the teachers in the classrooms. You may have the chance to teach classes on your own if you have special skills and competences. This could be in sport activities or music activities. You should be aware that supporting the class while the teacher leads the lesson will be your main task alongside supervising.

Good English skills are necessary to communicate with students and teachers to benefit the lessons.

English, Spanish, French and German skills can be very relevant to many efterskoler, as these languages may be taught at the school.

Volunteer requirements/skills

To work in a Danish efterskole it is important that the volunteer:

- Is at least 22 years old
- Is independent - take initiative and show interest in the students
- Enjoys working with teenagers
- Enjoys spending time with teenagers
- Is creative in the approach to the work
- Is flexible, as you may be asked to participate in different classes and leisure activities during the day, the evening, and the weekends
- Would like to live in a rural area or small town, as most of the projects are situated in such.



Accommodation

Volunteer accommodation at the efterskole.

It is not possible to live with a host family when volunteering at an efterskole.

High School

Youth aged 15-20

When young, Danish people have completed 9th or 10th grade, they usually choose a youth education. Attending a high school is one of the youth educations.

The students can attend a three-year course or a two-year course.

The high schools have mandatory classes all students need to attend, at least at a minimum level, such as Danish, maths, English, physical education, at least one science class and at least one other language class. Other classes are also available depending on the student's choices as well as advanced classes for previously completed classes.

At a glance...

Volunteer age	22 - 30
Danish (or English) skills required	● ● ● ● ○
Work with young children (aged 3-6)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Work with older children (aged 6-12)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Work with teenagers (aged 12-18)	● ● ● ● ●
Working outdoors	● ○ ○ ○ ○



Danish high schools are also very social places with various parties for the students throughout the year.

The high schools in Denmark sees it as a very unique opportunity to have a native English, French, Spanish, German, Chinese, or Japanese volunteer among their staff.

Main activities

The purpose of the Danish high schools, "Gymnasium", is to teach the students within the subjects of sciences, humanities, and society studies.

The students have various subjects and electives.

Trained teachers, each with their own main subjects, teach the students throughout the day.

Volunteer tasks

If you speak a language taught at the high school, you may have the opportunity to teach a class or support the teacher in the class. You may also be asked to assist in the English lessons, even if you are not a native speaker of English.

Another relevant class you can support will be physical education. Additional tasks will be given depending on the school's needs.



Volunteer requirements/skills

To work in a Danish high school, it is important that the volunteer:

- Is at least 22 years old
- Is independent - take initiative and show interest in the young people
- Enjoys working with teenagers
- Is creative in the tasks
- Is flexible and understanding in relation to the workplace environment
- Is flexible in relation to the task asked of you.

Accommodation

Host family.



Project Priority List

ICYE Denmark

Dear volunteer,

Please fill out this preference list to let us know, which projects you are interested in. You will have to read the project descriptions in the Work Profile first. PLEASE NOTE the requirements, such as age, for each project.

Volunteer's name: _____

Volunteer's birthday: _____

Volunteer's nationality: _____

Sending organisation: _____

Interests

First, we would like you to tell us which age groups you are interested in working with. Please check **all** you are interested in.

- Aged 3 - 6
- Aged 6 - 12
- Aged 12 - 20

Project types

Now, we would like to know which types of projects from the Work Profile, you would like to volunteer at. Please check **all** you are interested in.

- Kindergarten
- After School Activity Centre - "SFO"
- Primary School and Secondary School
- Efterskole
- High School

Volunteer's name: _____

Specific priorities

Now you choose three project types, in prioritized order, that you wish to work with. The 1st priority is the project type you would like the most to work at.

Please answer the following questions, as you fill out the priority form:

1. How can your competences and skills contribute to the chosen project/project area?
2. Why are you motivated to participate in the chosen areas?

Please be as specific as possible.

1st priority

2nd priority

3rd priority