



Overview

MINIMUM AGE: 17 (limited places available for 17 year olds)

DEPARTS: Jan / Jul

LENGTH: 5 months

ROLE AVAILABLE: Schools Assistant

Why Australia?

Lattitude offers placements working with Indigenous children in the Northern Territory & Northern Queensland. Volunteers interested in learning about the world's oldest people; their beliefs, heritage and values, should take up the challenge.

Where are the placements?

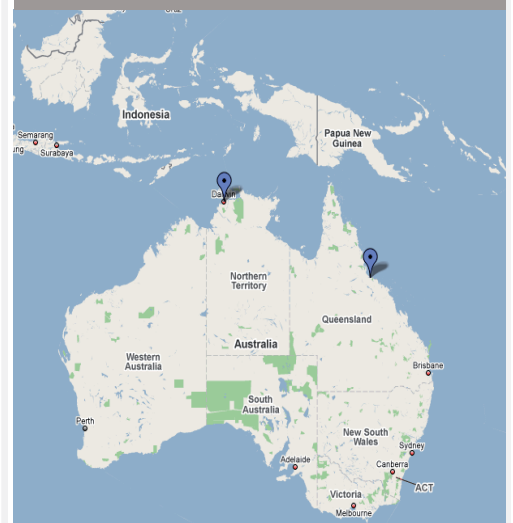
Placements are at boarding schools in Darwin, Townsville and Port Douglas.

Is it for me?

School Assistant placements offer the chance for volunteers to live and work with young people from remote Indigenous communities. For many pupils it will be the first time they have attended formal education. Schools will be all Indigenous or have a mixture of non-Indigenous and Indigenous students.

Volunteers will help to supervise pupils in the boarding house, before and after school and at weekends, as well as provide assistance in the classroom with one on one tutoring and group work. This is particularly important for pupils with low levels of grammar and literacy. Help will also be required in intensive English programs for children who do not

Placement Locations



have English as their native language.

Volunteers will have the opportunity to become involved in areas of personal interest such as sport, music and drama. They might also supervise on school camps, help in the school office or library and, for those with driving licences, transport boarders to doctors appointments, sport matches, and other appointments as required.

These placements are challenging yet hugely enriching. Volunteers will learn a tremendous amount about Indigenous culture but will need to be patient, tolerant, flexible and resourceful.

All mentors in the schools are very supportive but once settled they will expect you to undertake a range of different tasks with minimal direction. You will receive pocket money of approximately \$80–\$110 per week.

Accommodation and Food

Accommodation will be in the staff quarters on campus, or a room at the school boarding house. Food will be provided accordingly. Volunteers are placed in pairs, or in groups of up to five to six.

Travel

The opportunity for travel in and around Australia is available during school holidays or at the end of each intake.

Need to know

- Pre departure briefing: All volunteers will be invited to a group briefing prior to departure .
- On arrival: Volunteers make their own way to their placement, however can attend an orientation session in Melbourne with all other international volunteers undertaking an Indigenous placement.

What's included

- Interview (face to face or phone)
- Pre-departure briefing
- Accommodation & food
- Pocket money
- In-Country support
- 24/7 emergency support

Costs

The costs shown are for Lattitude placements departing in 2011. (Please note that these prices may change for placements departing in 2012.)

Lattitude fees (these are exact costs)

Lattitude application fee	\$125
Lattitude contribution fee	\$2100
Lattitude teaching skills course	N/A
Lattitude in-country orientation	N/A

You will also need to budget for the following (these are approx costs)

Travel insurance (6 months)	N/A
Return airfares (approx cost of group flight)	\$500
VISA	N/A
Police check	\$43
Total cost (approx)	\$2768



“In the classroom, you get to see how difficult it can be for young Aborigines to get to grips with English grammar. This is hardly surprising when you find out that for some of them English is only their third language and they have grown up not having to use it. On the sports field, you get to witness how many of them are natural athletes, at anything from Aussie Rules Football to Hockey. I was lucky enough to get the opportunity to coach the Girls Soccer team in the State Championships; a great way to see how the school encourages the students to enjoy representing their school.”

Adam Williams, Schools Assistant