

## **VOLUNTEERING AT HONOUR VILLAGE CAMBODIA**



We welcome volunteers from 18 upwards: you need to be fit, flexible, willing, and speak fluent English with clear pronunciation. You need to be self-motivated and a good team member. You need to be able to offer our children at least one month of your time, and preferably longer. We do not make a charge for volunteers, but if you hold a fun fund-raiser before you come, or after your visit, we are very grateful! Every penny goes to the work of Honour Village. Only Khmer staff are paid a salary, and all Trustees and non-Khmer volunteers fund themselves and pay their own expenses.

Please read our website, including the Volunteers' Handbook, and then apply on line to Dan Taylor, UK Trustee, through our contact page. Dan will be in touch with you, provide you with the application form and guide you through the application process.

Volunteers arrive each morning from Monday to Friday at 8.30am. They travel to us from town by motodop (as a passenger on a motorcycle), in a tuk-tuk, or on bicycle, which is often provided free by the guesthouse.

English lessons begin at 9 and end at 11am in time for lunch at 11.30am. After lunch, there is time for lesson preparation and for initiating play with village or resident children who have finished resting. Afternoon classes run from 1pm to 4pm. On Fridays there is a teachers' meeting from 4 pm to 5pm for feed-back and planning. There may also be mid-week meetings for teaching tips, reviews etc.

Volunteers will never be asked to do any child care. It is vital that children are cared for by mothers with whom they have bonded, and when volunteers leave at the end of their stay, this can cause long-term harm to vulnerable children who learn that those they come to love always leave them. So long as the core Khmer staff are in place, children manage the volunteers' coming and going quite happily. We have explained to them that, if we never feel sad at having to say goodbye, then it means that we never had the joy of saying hello and welcome either!

I hope that you will want to come and teach or volunteer at Honour Village. We are a happy project and we value our volunteers very highly. The more of yourself you give, the more satisfaction you will find in the experience. We hope to hear from you!

### **Sue Wiggans**

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