

Falkland Islands Schools – Infant Junior School and Camp Education

More information about the Travelling Teacher role

Travelling Teacher position:

Our school is responsible for the provision of primary education for all children in the Falkland Islands, including those who live in remote locations. We have a main school site in the capital, Stanley, where the majority of our 320 children attend. Education in remote areas is provided through two routes, firstly there are two satellite 'settlement' schools which are located on large sheep farms and secondly there is a travelling teacher service; this is a combined system of direct teaching and computer / telephone lessons.

Our school is seeking to recruit a **Travelling Teacher** to work with some of the small number of children on our school roll who live on single-family sheep farms, spread across the remote, rural areas of the Falkland Islands. The settings are large ranch style sheep farms, covering large areas, with thousands of sheep. Travelling teachers deliver primary education to these children through a combined system of direct face to face teaching and computer / telephone teaching. Firstly, the travelling teacher travels to the farm and spends between two – four weeks (depending on the number of children) living with the family and teaching the child or children (usually only between 1-3 children) in a 'classroom' in their home. The 'classrooms' are usually re-purposed rooms in the family home or a separate building / cabin close to the family home. After the initial period with the first family, the teacher moves onto the next of their locations, and so on, before repeating the 'beat'. Each rotation or 'beat' lasts between 5-7 weeks, which is the length of one of our half-terms. Therefore, there are opportunities, at least every half term, for teachers to travel to the main school site in Stanley to restock and enjoy their own social connections. The second part of this combined delivery of education takes over when the travelling teacher has moved onto the next family. When this happens the children in the first family receive daily lessons via computer / telephone teaching. These may be delivered by one of the teachers in the settlement schools, or a telephone teacher in Stanley, or with the travelling teacher themselves, from their second location. The children then have follow-up homework to complete which they do with the support of their family. Travelling teachers have access to a 4x4 vehicle to enable the travel between farms, they also use the inter-island ferry and sometimes travel via a 9-seater Britten Norman Islander aircraft which operates scheduled flights and a charter air service around the Islands. Settlements and single-family farms in Camp are connected by a road network (gravel / clay tracks) so teachers need to be competent drivers to travel independently between the locations on their 'beat'. In most circumstances the Travelling teacher has a living space separate to the family home, usually self-catered, but sometimes catered by the family. All locations have a dedicated school telephone line and internet access. Working as a travelling teacher is a truly unique opportunity where a teacher can experience a different way of life and a different environment while working within a familiar curriculum, doing the best job in the world!

Teachers suited to the position of Travelling Teacher will be practical, organised, resilient and adaptable people who have a sense for adventure and an understanding / appreciation / or an interest in finding out more about farming communities. Teaching in this setting allows you to create a bespoke, personalised learning plan for each child you work with, outside of the constraints of whole class teaching. Our settings allow for opportunities for learning in the environment and making education relevant to each learner. Applicants should be good practitioners and be able to teach successfully across the primary age range. They need to be self-sufficient problem solvers and able to work successfully at a distance from the main school site. They need to be in good health and feel comfortable driving 4 x 4 vehicles on gravel/clay tracks and unsealed road networks. We are looking for a primary travelling teacher to start in August 2024. This is an unaccompanied post due to the nature of the travel and accommodation.