

Ideas for Your Gap Year...

There are lots of books & leaflets in the Careers Library as well as the web resources listed here, including: "Opportunities in the Gap Year"; "Study Gap Weblink Guide" and "Your Gap Year" amongst others.

New International Citizen Service Offers Opportunities for Students Planning Their Gap Years

The International Citizen Service (ICS) is a global volunteering experience which supports young people from all backgrounds to make a real difference to some of the world's poorest people. This new initiative, launched by the Prime Minister in 2012 and funded by the Department for International Development (DFID), will give thousands of 18-22 year olds across the UK the chance to join in the fight against global poverty. Following a successful pilot scheme, ICS plans to place 7,000 new ICS volunteers over the next three years. The first placements will start in July. ICS has been designed to increase understanding and experience of the world, and to help volunteers learn how they can help the world's poorest people as a global citizen. It will also help them develop important skills such as team-working, communication and decision-making: really important for finding a job and building their future. Volunteers will be provided with training to make the most of this experience:

- **Preparing for departure** : once selected, volunteers will be given pre-departure training with other volunteers taking part in a range of different ICS programmes to help them understand development issues and prepare for living and working in a different culture
- **In country** : volunteers will go through orientation training before starting the development project to help them become familiar with the culture in which they'll be working and to brief them on their project or work placement, as well as on how to stay safe while they are on their placement
- **Returning to the UK**: When they return to the UK, volunteers will be helped and encouraged to continue fighting global poverty, eg. through campaigning or through other volunteering opportunities, and to share what they've learnt with others.

Visit www.dfid.gov.uk/Get-Involved/Take-action/International-Citizen-Service/Why-join-ICS to find out more or email enquiry@ics-uk.org.uk if you have any questions.

Organisations offering Gap Year experiences:

- **Africa & Asia Venture**: Challenging and inspiring volunteer projects from three weeks to five months in Africa, Asia and Latin America
- **Best Gap Year**: worldwide gap year jobs, courses and travel opportunities
- **Blue Lizard Adventures**: offer opportunities to volunteer at wildlife, environmental conservation, rehabilitation and research programmes in Africa and other places round the world

- [BUNAC](#): for a range of working holidays, voluntary schemes and teaching programmes
- [CSV](#): UK's largest volunteering and training charity. For young people aged 16-35 for voluntary service in the UK. A full-time placement can last between 4 and 12 months
- [Earthwatch](#): is an international environmental charity which engages people worldwide in scientific field research and education
- [Flying Fish](#): a provider of professional water and snow based instructional courses enabling students to work towards a recognised qualification for use as part of a productive gap year
- [Foreign & Commonwealth Office: Gap Year](#) comprehensive information, advice & guidance from the FCO for anyone considering taking a gap year
- [Frontier](#): a non-profit conservation, education and development organisation which sends young people on volunteer programmes to countries around the world. Find out more about gap-year opportunities
- [Gap Advice](#): for independent gap year travel information, research and advice
- [Gap Medics](#): Gap Medics arranges placements for students in carefully selected hospitals in Namibia, Nepal and Tanzania. Following intensive pre-placement preparation, participants gain on-the-job training as well as making a real contribution to the local
- [Gap Year Jobs & Volunteering Site](#): most popular gap year activities, whether that be training and working as a TEFL teacher or ski instructor, going on a great adventure or simply finding a summer job in Europe.
- [GapYear.com](#): a good website for ideas on where to go and what do at home or abroad
- [Gap Year Directory](#): dedicated to helping you plan your time out, whatever you choose to do!
- [Halsbury Work Experience Abroad](#): Improve your language skills and job prospects by working abroad. A perfect choice for A-Level modern language students
- [Inspire Sri Lanka](#): working with and learning about Asian Elephants whilst helping to support conservation & working on eco farm and at local orphanage
- [Kaya Responsible Travel](#): Kaya gives you the opportunity to volunteer abroad, learn a language abroad, gain valuable work experience overseas, take a gap year or become TEFL qualified.
- [Latitude Global Volunteering](#): are unique in the Gap Year Industry for offering a bursary scheme for volunteers who cannot afford a gap year due to their financial circumstances. The bursaries range from small grants to fully funded placements
- [Leonardo da Vinci work placements](#) enable students to travel and work in European countries free of charge. Students receive accommodation, food, transfers, transportation and a relevant work placement 100% funded by the EU. Students can choose to do placements in cities such as Barcelona, Berlin, Bordeaux, Lisbon, Dublin and Prague. Foreign language skills are not essential in all locations.
- [Milkround](#): includes a section for students planning their Gap Years with articles that include: Planning a gap year; Travel Advice; A beginners guide to round the world tickets; Backpacking tips for girls; Choosing a volunteer placement

- [Outreach International](#): Volunteer opportunities include caring for disabled children in Cambodia; working in orphanages and with street children in Ecuador; conservation work with giant sea turtles, crocodiles and whales and many more!
- [Projects Abroad](#): has sent over 20,000 volunteers to destinations all over the world. Placements range from short breaks over the summer to a whole year away. The volunteer can decide when they want to go, where and what they want to do
- [Project Trust](#): is a voluntary organisation that arranges placements to send volunteers abroad
- [Raleigh International](#): an overseas expedition with Raleigh International will give you hands-on experience of working on community and environmental projects. Volunteers are aged between 18 and 75 years
- Ski Seasons: companies who operate ski seasons include: Crystal Ski, Ski World, Ski Total, Bramble Ski, Powder White and Scott Dunn (all recommended by former student and Mentor, Heather May, who worked with Scott Dunn during 2012/13 - contact her via heatherkmay@hotmail.com for further advice and information)
- [The Leap](#): placements offering a unique and fascinating mix of conservation, eco-tourism and community projects
- [Trekforce](#): Trekforce Expeditions offer inspirational and challenging conservation expeditions, language courses and teaching placements in Central and South America and South East Asia
- [Twin Work and Volunteer Abroad](#): Whether you are taking time out from study, gap year, or a break from a busy career, Twin Work and Volunteer Abroad can help you turn your dreams into an experience of a lifetime!
- [Volunteering with VSO](#): is a chance to use your skills to make a tangible contribution to fighting poverty. You could make a difference in 1 of over 30 countries, mostly in Africa and Asia. Find out about opportunities for you to get involved
- [WAVA](#): Whether you are taking time out from study, gap year, or a break from a busy career, Work and Volunteer Abroad can help you turn your dreams into an experience of a lifetime!
- [Worldwide Volunteering](#): access to hundreds of organisations and thousands of possible placements
- [Year Out Group](#): Year Out Group includes over 35 of the leading gap year organisations. They operate in over 90 countries, offer a wide variety of gap year programs

Internships/Work Experience During a Gap Year

- [Bank of England Gap Year Opportunities](#)
- [Big Choice](#): search for internships, placements or school leaver opportunities here
- [Fledglings](#): student work placements
- [Gap Year Programmes](#): programmes available to UK students on their gap years with companies such as Pinsent Mayson, Bolivian Express(Journalism in Bolivia), IBM, Deloitte, KPMG, Rothschild, Arup, Accenture. Apply during

September/October, in line with the UCAS application. Usually the companies are looking for strong predicted grades and extensive details can be found on company websites:

- [IBM Gap Year Placements](#): You'll spend your first 9 months (August to May) on a work placement, where you'll support and learn from experienced professionals from across IBM. That could be in any area across the company. Then, at the end of the 9 months, you can either continue working for another 3 months or you can go travelling
- [GradsKent](#): advertises and promotes gap year/sandwich year placement vacancies along with permanent, graduate roles, all great ways of gaining experience in the workplace and making your CV more attractive to employers. GradsKent is often approached by organisations who are offering these kinds of opportunities at short notice, and who task GradsKent to find them appropriate candidates. Upload a copy of your CV if you want to be in with a chance
- [Projects Abroad](#): business internships available overseas
- [Red Cross](#): one-year volunteer placements available abroad
- [Red Cross Volunteer Internships](#): 8 - 12 weeks, part-time in London and across UK
- [The Leap](#): opportunity to gain a wide variety of different experiences all over the world
- [Travellers Worldwide](#): international work experience internships
- [Year in Industry \(YINI\)](#): high-quality, paid placements for students in their gap year before or during their degree course. Placements for students interested in all areas of engineering, science, IT, e-commerce, business, marketing etc.

Jobs During a Gap Year

- [Activate](#): Gap Year jobs
- [E4S](#): student Job Site. Search for temporary/gap year jobs
- [Gap Work](#): Gap Year jobs
- [Just Jobs for Students](#): part-time, year out and graduate job opportunities for students
- [MilkRound](#): Gap Year/Volunteering Placements
- [MilkRound](#): Holiday/Part-time work

Teaching English as a Foreign Language Can Earn You Thousands both in UK and Abroad!

CELTA is the most well-known internationally recognised initial qualification in the teaching of English language to adults and is an award for people with little or no previous teaching experience. A CELTA course is practical and involves the practice of teaching foreign students at different levels and observing experienced classroom practitioners, as well as attending and participating in seminars. Candidates must have an aptitude for the structure of the English language, an ability to clarify meaning simply, some awareness of the difficulties learners face when their first language is not English and good organisational skills. Selection for the course which is offered at Canterbury Christ Church University is by interview. Candidates are selected on the

basis of their English language awareness, presentation and communication skills. Visit: www.canterbury.ac.uk/courses/prospectus/postgraduate/courses/CELTA.asp

Taking a Gap Year? Take a TEFL Course!

A TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) course is ideal for students thinking of taking a gap year before university, offering the chance to earn money while travelling the world and giving them valuable skills for a future career. Accredited courses are run by TEFL England; no experience required and you can qualify in as little as one weekend. TEFL England offer a free job placement service covering vacancies in Spain, China, South America and more. Visit www.teflengland.co.uk to find out more.

If You're Planning a Gap Year but Need Financial Support, You Could Apply for a Leney Travelling Award

The Leney Travelling Award offers up to £2,500 to the best overall project concept submitted to the Trustees. The Trust aims to support students' travel abroad or in Britain, which will enhance their education as global citizens. Preference is given to Kent students in Year 13 who have shown qualities of leadership and personality and whose venture is likely to help their future life and career. Projects supported in previous years have involved travel to various parts of the world and many have had humanitarian aspects in less developed regions, rather than being holidays. To apply and/or find out more, email: leah.ford@kent.gov.uk Completed application forms must be returned by the end of January. Trustees will expect to receive a report from award holders on the project once it has been undertaken.

Gap Year Advice from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Gap year travelling is a trip of a lifetime. The FCO offer useful advice and information at www.fco.gov.uk/en/travel-and-living-abroad/gapyear/ including top tips on insurance and money to advice on staying healthy and getting the right visa, enabling you to plan the safest and most enjoyable gap year travel.