

# KINDERTAGESSTÄTTE „MARKTSPATZEN“

 <http://zweckverband.org/kita-marktspatzen/>



## SUMMARY

The nursery „Marktspatzen“ is a facility for childcare, located at the centre of Halle. It is runned by the association called „Zweckverband familienunterstützende Einrichtungen im evangelischen Kirchenkreis Halle-Saalkreis“.

The Kindertagesstätte (Kita) "Marktspatzen" (nursery "market of sparrows") is the oldest institution in the city of Halle (Saale). The beautiful brick building and the green, earthy yard area exude a calm, warm atmosphere.

The joy on being outside and on the free game, the fun on singing and making music and the enthusiasm for creative projects are typical for this kindergarten.

52 children, from two years on until the age of 6/7, are separated in 3 groups and cared by a total of eight full-time staff and one person, who pass a "Freiwilliges Soziales Jahr" (FSJ, national voluntary service in the social sector).

Basics of work from the "Marktspatzen" are Christian values and the Church year.

In the nursery the children are learning and living the peaceful cooperation in small familiar groups, without letting the individual needs of each of the kids disregarded.

There exists a very close cooperation with the market church and other day-care centres from the association. Also a profitable and reliable cooperation with the parents from the childrens is very important to us. Parents are involved in the "Förderverein" (engl. booster club), make feasts and accompany the children on outings and excursions.

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## FIELD OF ENGAGEMENT AND ACTIVITIES OF THE VOLUNTEER WITHIN PLACE OF ASSIGNMENT

The voluntary service at this poa mainly is social and caring work with children.

The volunteer is assigned to a fixed (age-)group. In this fixed group are about 20 children at the age of 4 to 6 years. However, she or he will have contact with all children and parents, because the volunteer will also help out in other areas of the nursery.

### PLEASE BE AWARE:

- Since you work with kids, it might be quite loud
- The children do not speak english and only few staff members speak english
- You will have a quite fixed duty-roster

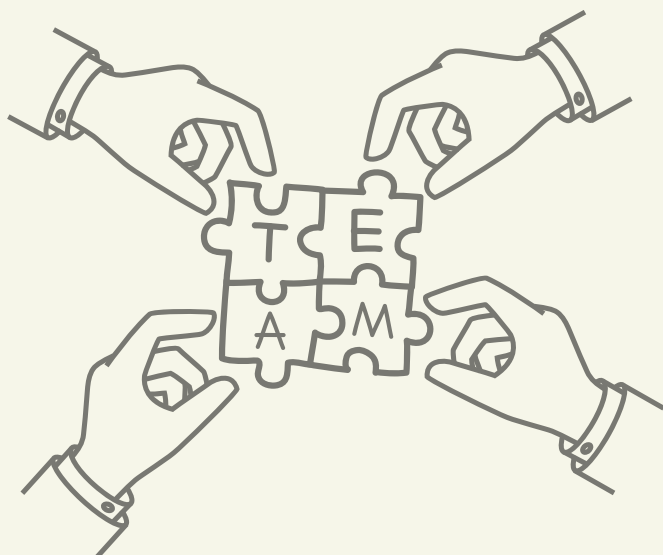


### Further areas of engagement:

- temporary personnel in other groups
- performance of work in the sector domestic economy
- participation to service consultations (two times per month) and other activities in the team







### Activities in working with groups:

- support for group activities (such as crafts, preschool work, thematic work like: water, electricity, finding out roads, etc.)
- participation in the „morning circle“ (every day at the beginning of the work)
- support dressing the children, toileting, brushing teeth, with bringing to bed, handing out meals, etc.
- company the groups on excursions
- preparation and implementation of different offers for the preschool-children








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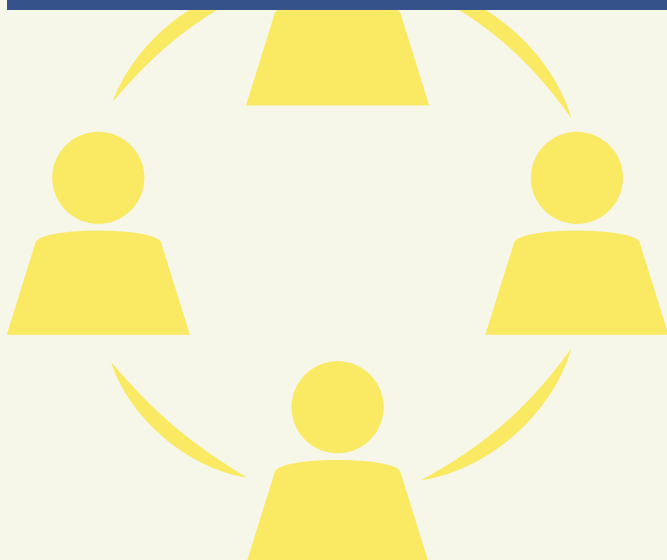
## VOLUNTEERS PROFILE – SPECIFIC FOR THIS PLACE OF ASSIGNMENT

-  enthusiasm for working with children
-  openness to religious themes and religious education
- (not mandatory, but welcome:) skills in the area of sports, music, cultural and/or creative work or handicraft and the interest to bring in this specific knowledge into the work with the children
-  openminded and proactive behavior
-  ability to work in a team
-  curiosity and the will to find a common language with the team, to find a way to communicate with the other teammembers
-  certificate of good conduct without any entries



## VOLUNTEERS PROFILE – GENERAL

-  18 to 28 years (exceptions: people with disability)
-  High school certificate or comparable personal qualifications
-  knowledge of English (B2) and/or German (willingness to learn starting in the home country)
-  motivation to learn through voluntary service (as peace service) in different fields and to get involved with civil society
-  openness to the special structure of a voluntary service with Friedenskreis Halle



## MANDATORY „SERVICE RELATED ACTIVITIES“ :

- Participation in the accompanying educational program (seminars)
- Implementation of at least one personal project
- Occupation with and engagement in topics and activities of (local) civil society
- Learning German in depth
- Willingness to get involved in civil society in one's home country after the service

# REPORTS OF FORMER VOLUNTEERS

## ADLA, 2022-23

"I have been volunteering in the KITA "Marktspatzen" for 6 months now. For now I have had a wonderful time and gained a lot of experience on how to behave with kids, that- I am so grateful for, having a bunch of siblings myself. Like, how to approach them, not give them a wrong message with my body language, make them feel safe and not pressured to do anything, to interact with them the best way if they are going thru some strong emotions. Doro and Katja are the teachers I am working with and they will always give a good advice on how to take care of the kids.

As you arrive Martin (the boss and your mentor) will show you around, everything is so perfectly made for kids, that it made me sooo emotional upon arriving.

When you come into the kitchen there you will be welcomed by Martina. She's responsible for the kitchen and SHE IS DA BEST, we always joke and exchange positive energy.

Kids are super happy there, because they have a good team of teachers taking care of them. What I especially like is how the team is working like a family. I love that vibes. Communication is the KEY. Martin is a great mentor who is not forcing or applying any boss attitude towards our relationship so I always feel comfortable sharing my opinion on stuff that I like and don't like. He is always there to listen and try to understand.

I used this volunteering program to also reflect deeply about my own childhood and understand how some things lead to another. Kids there remind me daily on some stuff that growing up we forgot to notice.

As it is for the kids, they will welcome you open handed, ready to have a new person to play games with and hear their stories. Of course some of them will not be so open, rather sensitive and closed. There will be needed patience and all I can say is don't take it to your heart.

The only tiring thing there could be working with Doro. Don't get me wrong she is a great person and I share some super nice moments and talks with her. But, she is difficult to work with, nothing that can not be managed tho. Each of us will have their own experience, anyhow important is to communicate if there is something that you don't like. Other coworkers will gladly give you an advice on how to function with her the best. Katja is a blessing to work with and she will be by your side bringing a nice relaxing work atmosphere. :)

Concerning the language barrier...

Martin and a few people will speak english but that is not going to be a problem if you try and pick up the words along the way. My advice is to ask as much questions possible and actively memorise what you hear to use it with the first chance.

Everyone there will be happy to explain you whatever you ask..

Stuff spoken in the kindergarden and the duties are almost the same everyday so no worries you will figure it all out.

So yeah that is my so far experience and I would definitely recommend coming here... if you love kids of course. :)