

Internships in VVOB programmes 2023 - 2024

Online /Blended Teacher Professional Development in South Africa

Summary of the internship

This internship provides an opportunity to learn from and contribute to VVOB's interventions on online and blended professional development in South Africa. VVOB explores the effectiveness of online and blended learning in the professional development of teachers and school leaders, particularly in early childhood (focus on learning through play) and primary education (focus on early grade reading instruction).

You will be contributing to a range of activities such as technical orientation sessions with educators, optimising help desk support, developing and implementing a retention, engagement and motivation strategy, optimising the use of specific platforms for learning (e.g. VVOB's learning management system, social learning platform), regular tracking of key progression data for specific online courses etc. The focus of support activities will depend on the timing of the internship.

The ideal candidate would:

- Be confident and proficient in English
- Be pursuing a degree in or else have a strong interest in ICT for Education. This internship could be of interest to students pursuing degrees in pedagogical sciences / neuroscience.
- Have experience with online learning
- Have a curiosity about South African history, culture and development issues
- Be committed to completing an internship period of at least 3 months

1. Location

Country	South Africa
Town	Durban
Partner / Institute	VVOB
Department	Programme team Online and blended learning contributing to two projects : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning through Play in Early Childhood Development • Early grade reading instruction

2. Period

Your preferred period
Minimum 3 months

3. Terms of Reference

Objectives of the internship	This internship provides an opportunity to learn from and contribute to VVOB's interventions on online and blended professional development in South Africa. VVOB explores the effectiveness of online and blended learning in the professional development of teachers and school leaders, particularly in early childhood (focus on learning through play) and primary education (focus on early grade reading instruction)
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	instruction).			
Expected Results	Depending on the timing of your internship, you will get an opportunity to put your knowledge and skills into practice by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributing to technical orientation sessions with educators, ensuring registration and enrolment runs smoothly. • Optimising help desk support, e.g. responsiveness to queries, automated chat bot • Contribute to the development and implementation of a retention, engagement and motivation strategy • Optimising the use of specific platforms for learning (e.g. VVOB's learning management system, social learning platform), • Regular tracking of key progression data for specific online courses • Opportunities to design and build courses may still arise, though likely limited as time-sensitive. • Contribute to VVOB's communications e.g. by developing social media messages about online / blended learning experiences. 			
Planned activities and time frame	Activity	M1	M2	M3
	Orientation, final framework of specific scope of internship	x		
	Implementation which may include specific activities led by the intern as well as contributions to other team members' activities.	x	x	X
	Possible contribution to VVOB's external communication related to online /blended learning interventions (e.g. through writing an article and/or social media post			x
Equity component of internship	VVOB programmes in South Africa aim to improve the competences of teachers and school leaders in primary schools and early childhood centres to respond to the great inequalities in the education system. Particular attention is given to improving early grade reading instruction and learning-through-play for young learners in disadvantaged contexts. Equity is also an important consideration in ensuring access to blended CPD opportunities. Equity, gender and environmental sustainability cut across all VVOB's projects and programmes.			

4. Support

Working environment	VVOB office in Durban with travel in the province.
Position in the program/institution	This traineeship supports the online and blended learning components of two interventions: Programme on Early Grade Reading instruction Project on Learning through Play in Early Childhood
Name Supervisor	Henre Benson, Strategic Education Advisor Online Learning

5. Minimum requirements

Expertise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasonable proficiency in English (written and spoken) Strong ICT skills Experience with online learning
Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong interest and background in Online Learning Able to adapt quickly to new work environment and culture Independent yet team player Creative Flexible and open-minded Pursuing a degree in e.g. ICT in Education, Pedagogical Sciences, Neuroscience.
Required / Preferred preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic background reading on South African culture and history recommended, especially with regard to the education system. Read online information about VVOB: www.vvob.be www.southafrica.vvob.be https://southafrica.vvob.org/ Explore VVOB in South Africa's learning management system: https://learning.vvob.org.za/
Duo-attachment possible?	No
Preferential or reserved attachment in the context of a Structural Partnership?	No

6. Working conditions

Workload	40hrs/week
Leave days / days off	2,5 days per full month (upon approval by supervisors) + weekends and public holidays
Required language skills	English
Transport	Car rental, Taxi (Uber) Intern will need to cover cost of home-work transport. When traveling on internship-related assignments, VVOB will cover the costs.
Possibilities accommodation	A range of options e.g. through airBnB
Estimated general costs	Accommodation: from 5600 ZAR/month Living costs: min 4500 ZAR/month Car rental: approx. 600 ZAR/day

7. Comments

- Minimum duration of 3 full months – visa required prior to arrival for stays exceeding 3 months (see 'vertrekkersgids' for guidance)
- It is important that the intern is highly independent and takes initiative both in practical matters and social life. The support provided by VVOB staff is mostly limited to work assignments, though VVOB provides some assistance and guidance on practical matters during the first days after arrival. Advice is given as requested by the intern.