

All you need to know about applying to be on the Reach UK Programme

Who?

Before you fill in the application form, please check if you fit our programme! The Reach Programme is especially designed for:

- 1) Committed Christians who have recently graduated
- 2) Those willing to give one year or two of their time to befriend and share the gospel with international students.
- 3) Fluent English speakers.

What's the job?

As a Reach volunteer with Friends International you will spend one or two years befriending and sharing the Gospel with international students. You will be based in one of the main University cities alongside an experienced member of staff, who will be your supervisor.

Your daily timetable will be decided together with your supervisor but will include: helping to organise programmes of events, leading Bible studies (one to one or small group), visiting students, supporting and encouraging local church volunteers.

As part of the year we would encourage you to take part in one of the summer outreach campaigns either in the UK or abroad.

Training and Study

We see this year as not only an opportunity for Friends International and the local church to have an extra team member to help but as a year to invest in you as a person, to help you grow in your relationship with Christ and develop your gifts. We see training and study as key components of the year.

There will be three residential conferences

- September - an Orientation conference which marks the start of the Reach Volunteer year.
- January - Friends International annual staff conference
- June - a Debriefing conference to review and evaluate the year

Additional training will come via:

- Regional team days (once a term meeting with local FI staff)
- "On the job" informal training as you work alongside your supervisor
- A personal study programme, which all Reach Volunteers are expected to undertake

Finances

As a Volunteer you will be responsible for raising your own finances. Experience has shown that it can cost from £5,000 to £7,000 annually depending on living arrangements and personal expenses. **You will also be asked to make a contribution of £475 to Friends International towards the cost of the training programme.**

This is a real challenge and one that all Friends International staff face, but it's also a great opportunity to learn about God's provision. Friends, churches and family are often happy to give to your support. We will help you communicate your needs to them.

Practical Details

The year begins in September and runs for twelve months.

Each week you will have one day off in addition to Sunday, which can be quite a busy day.

You will also get five weeks holiday and national bank holidays.

Important Details

Before you complete the application form we'd encourage you to discuss your application with your local church leaders. It's good to include them in your plans early on especially if you'll be asking them for money!

If you do apply, please would you send with your application form **a sterling cheque for £30 made payable to Friends International (or the equivalent in a Euro cheque)**. We undertake to return this sum to unsuccessful applicants, but if you withdraw from the application process we regret that the deposit is non-returnable. It also covers the cost of the Reach Handbook which will be sent to you on successful completion of the application process.

The **closing date for applications is April 30th**. If before submitting your application you want to chat informally or visit a current placement, please contact us at the address below and we'll be happy to arrange this.

Our procedure on receipt of the application form is to take up references and based upon them and the application form we will decide whether or not to interview.

Enquiries

All enquiries should be made to:

Lindsey Capper

Friends International, 3 Crescent Stables, 139 Upper Richmond Road, London, SW15 2TN

Tel: +44 (0) 20 8780 3511 Email: Lindsey.capper@friendsinternational.org.uk

The Friends International Statement of Faith

The various clauses of this statement are intended to be consistent with the chief confessions of faith of the churches in the British Isles, such as The Thirty-Nine Articles of the Church of England and the Westminster Confession. All staff and Trustees of Friends International are required to agree with and sign this basis of faith on appointment, and thereafter at three yearly intervals.

The basis of faith shall be the fundamental truths of Christianity, as revealed in Holy Scripture, including:

- a) the unity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead;
- b) the sovereignty of God in creation, revelation, redemption and final judgment;
- c) the divine inspiration and infallibility of Holy Scripture as originally given, and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct;
- d) the universal sinfulness and guilt of human nature since the fall, rendering all subject to God's wrath and condemnation;
- e) the full deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God; His virgin birth and His real and sinless humanity; His death on the cross, His bodily resurrection and His present reign in heaven and earth;
- f) redemption from the guilt, penalty and power of sin only through the sacrificial death once and for all time of our representative and substitute, Jesus Christ, the only Mediator between God and people;
- g) justification as God's act of undeserved mercy, in which sinners are pardoned all their sins, and accepted as righteous in God's sight, only because of the righteousness of Christ imputed to them, this justification being received by faith alone;
- h) the need for the Holy Spirit to make the work of Christ effective to the individual sinner, granting them repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ
- i) the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in all those thus regenerated, producing in them an increasing likeness to Christ in character and behaviour, and empowering them for their witness in the world;
- j) the one holy universal Church, which is the Body of Christ, and to which all true believers belong;
- k) the future personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge all people, executing God's just condemnation on the impenitent and receiving the redeemed to eternal glory.

I agree with the Friends International statement of faith:

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Friends International

Statement of Vision, Mission & Values

Our Vision:

That every international student in the UK have a Christian friend, giving them the opportunity to respond to the message of Jesus Christ and return home with the desire and skills to spread the Gospel in their own country and throughout the world.

Our Mission:

To make known to international students in the UK the Good News of Jesus Christ by word and action, lead them to a personal faith in him and train them to become effective witnesses for Christ in their own countries and among all nations.

Our Values:

- Prayerful dependence on God for everything we need to fulfil our vision
- The Bible as our source of teaching and models of ministry
- The vital role of the local church in sharing the Gospel with the nations
- Cooperation & partnership in the expansion of God's kingdom
- Caring for the whole person
- Giving equal respect to all cultures
- Cross-cultural sensitivity in all relationships
- Giving priority to people groups which have least opportunity to hear the gospel in their own countries
- Servanthood, openness, consultation and mutual commitment in all of our relationships
- Giving all staff opportunity to use their unique, God-given gifts to their full potential

The Friends International Statement on Divergent Views

1. Friends International is an evangelical Mission that works with a large variety of denominational and independent churches. Further, its trustees, branch officials and staff also represent a considerable diversity in their church backgrounds.
2. The Statement of Faith contained in the Trust Deeds represents the essential truths of the Gospel that are basic for the ministry of Friends International. As such, it is the doctrinal base to which all trustees, branch officials and staff must assent, and the grounds on which Friends International is in fellowship with churches and other mission societies.
3. Friends International does, however, recognize and respect the divergences of biblical interpretation and practices amongst evangelical Christians, including those of churches overseas to which international student Christians may belong. As long as these differences do not conflict with the Statement of Faith, or cause undue divisiveness, they are not a barrier to becoming a staff member, a trustee or a branch official.
4. Being non-denominational in doctrine, Friends International expects its trustees, branch officials or staff to be flexible on teachings that might be divisive. Such teachings should not influence their advice when counselling a new believer regarding church affiliation, nor affect the churches and mission societies with which they have contact.
5. When working in a single church context, whether one's own or another, Friends International expects its trustees, branch officials and staff to operate with respect towards that particular church's viewpoints on matters not covered by the Statement of Faith. However when working within an inter-church context, trustees, branch officials and staff are able to make decisions, where needed, on matters not covered by the Statement of Faith, whether in terms of applying their own viewpoints or deferring to the viewpoints of others. Either way their practice should be motivated by a desire for the optimal cooperation of the group and not by a sense of loyalty to their own theological convictions.
6. Friends International believes that God has called the trustees and staff to concentrate unswervingly on evangelism, discipleship and preparing students to help in the development of churches in their own countries upon their return, according to Christ's mandate (Matthew 28 v18-20). Therefore, all are urged to concentrate on these goals and to exercise care in all conversation and correspondence so that no offence is unnecessarily caused to anyone, be they colleagues, local churches or students on any matters, whether doctrinal, political or racial. Whilst the cross may be an offence to some (Galatians 5.11), we are called to be the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing (2 Corinthians 2.15).

I agree with the Friends International Statement on Divergent Views

Signature _____ Date _____

**APPLICATION for
Reach Volunteer with Friends International**

(PLEASE WRITE IN BLACK INK)

**Please attach a recent photograph of yourself and your CV which should include:
education, qualifications and work experience**

Full name.....		Title.....
Address.....		
.....		
Home phone.....	Mobile.....	E-mail.....
Date of Birth.....	Birthplace.....	Sex: M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
Marital Status: Married <input type="checkbox"/>	Date of marriage	
Single <input type="checkbox"/>	Date of prospective marriage.....	
Engaged <input type="checkbox"/>		
Citizen of.....	Naturalized? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> When?.....	

Location applying for.....

Other locations you would consider.....

Have you ever applied to another missionary agency? Yes No

Were you accepted? Yes No

If the answer is 'No', please explain briefly. If 'Yes' please give name of mission agency

.....

.....

Please indicate any current financial liabilities and how you plan to deal with them

.....

Which other countries (outside the UK) have you lived in or visited, for how long and for what purposes?

.....

.....

Please give details of the church you are currently attending.....
.....
.....

Why are you applying to Friends International?
.....
.....

How well do you work in an unstructured setting?
.....
.....

What training, qualification or skills do you have that will contribute to your ministry (both Christian and secular experience)?
.....
.....
.....

HEALTH

Would you say your health was good/fair/poor?.....

Have you been away from work/study for more than one week in the last three years due to health reasons? If yes, please give brief details
.....
.....

Are you taking regular medication for any medical condition?

Do you have any disability and, if so, what adjustments might you need us to make?
.....

GENERAL

What are your main hobbies?

Which books (Christian or otherwise) that you have read recently have made an impact on you?.....
.....

Which newspapers/periodicals do you read regularly?(include magazines from missionary organizations).....
.....

What is your family's attitude towards you working as a volunteer with Friends International? If you are married please comment on your spouse's attitude.....
.....

Reach Volunteers occasionally come into contact with children in the course of their work. Describe any previous experience you have of working with under-18 year olds, either in a voluntary or professional capacity. (This post will require completion of a child protection self-declaration form.)

.....

.....

Please answer the following questions briefly. Use additional sheets of paper as needed.

Tell us how you became a Christian

On what do you base the assurance of your salvation? Please use Biblical references

What would you say to someone who asks you, "Why do you trust the Bible?"

How does your home church feel about your working with a Christian group? Have you told them that you are applying to Friends International? Do you believe they will commend you to work with Friends International should you be accepted?

Describe your experience in Christian ministry in the areas of evangelism, teaching, public speaking, counselling, administrative duties, discipling, leading bible studies.

How do you maintain and strengthen your spiritual life?

Please study the Friends International doctrinal statement. Do you agree with it?

Please study the Statement of Divergent Views. Do you agree to it?

Other Comments:

REFERENCES: List four acquaintances who are not related to you, but who know you well. These four people should include (1) your current church leader, (2) a person who has supervised you, (3) a colleague/co-worker, and (4) a friend. Please do not include Friends International staff as one of your referees. Please indicate where the referee is not a Christian – the forms vary in content.

Full Name.....
Relationship.....
Address.....
.....
.....
.....
Telephone Number.....
Email.....

Full Name.....
Relationship.....
Address.....
.....
.....
.....
Telephone Number.....
Email.....

Full Name.....
Relationship.....
Address.....
.....
.....
.....
Telephone Number.....
Email.....

Full Name.....
Relationship.....
Address.....
.....
.....
.....
Telephone Number.....
Email.....

Signature.....

Date.....