



clouddog student leaders

position specification

Qualities of Leader Role

Excellent leadership is essential to the success of the clouddog experience. Leaders understand that the student's experience is primary at all times and whilst the experience may be a first for you and will no doubt impact you personally, your primary role is the confident facilitation, sensitive support and non-intrusive guidance of the students. The safety and well being of the group is a priority at all times.

Prior to Departure

- Attend Student and Parent information evenings (x2, dates tbc)
- Will be required, once selected, to sign a trust agreement with clouddog stipulating their dedication to the programme and commitment to follow the experience through in full
- Will be required to sign an indemnity form with each clouddog partner and provider
- Will be required to purchase their own travel insurance for the 3wk experience (est. £60)

Relationship with your partner leader

The success of the relationship between the South African and English leaders should stand as a model for the students' personal and cross cultural exchange with each other. Whilst being responsible for the individual personal or cultural needs of the students they have accompanied to the program, leaders will be attentive to the needs of the whole group (SA & UK students) where possible and look to increase the integration of the group as a clouddog team.

The earlier the leader relationship is established the better and is best begun prior to departure.

- Make regular contact with SA equivalent leader, exchanging information and feedback on the selected students in the other location (ie. J'burg or London)

During the Experience

- Escort and remain responsible for twelve students collectively with a leader from the other location (1xSA, 1xUK). Your main escort responsibilities are primarily to and from the home destination (long-haul flights from UK plus internal SA flights, internal only for SA Students).
- Whilst reservations for all aspects of the experience will be organised by clouddog, you would be responsible for co-ordinating the students in order to meet the logistics required.
- Leaders could be required to provide emotional, cultural and practical support as well as morale-boosting to students whilst away from home. Fears and doubts do arise.
- Arrange to put aside time each day with your partner leader to discuss and to review the days activities, recording points for the students/your T-count evaluation.
- Establish a relationship based on trust and support, whilst also having fun.
- Wherever possible help to promote the young person's developmental, social, emotional, educational, religious and cultural needs.
- Report/refer any concerns about the welfare and safety of the young people involved in our programmes.

....continued overleaf



During the Experience.....continued

- In each component of the experience qualified leaders are in place to guide the students. At these times, you are asked to allow the local experience leaders to take lead responsibility. However, you will still be required to participate where possible and follow some daily checklists with each student. Such as:
 - Check in with each student each day, one-on-one and see that they are doing “ok”. Observe their welfare. Discuss and resolve any issues where required escalate to clouddog or the experience provider for resolution.
 - Check that students have taken malaria tablets or any other medications required;
 - That food allergies are being respected; by both the provider and the student
 - that daily journal entries are being completed (particularly where you note a student had a ‘big’ day) that any issues occurring that day are reported in the journal.
- On the final day of each experience component, ensure students complete a T-count evaluation led by you. Leaders will also be required to complete their own a T-count evaluation. These should be retained and submitted to clouddog at the end of the experience.
- Towards the end of the Zulu experience, work with your partner Leader to determine the split of students for the Wilderness Trail.
- Expenses for the experience are pre-paid by clouddog. However, leaders will be supplied with a small petty cash amount for sundry items required by students or any emergency medical and other requirements.
- **Whilst you are responsible for acting with leader capacity for the students during their time in South Africa, further to points above pertaining to accredited guides at your disposal, clouddog Ltd has both travel and programme indemnity insurance that means you will not be considered personally liable in the unlikely event of a reportable incident.**

Post – experience

Upon your return to London/Johannesburg, you will be required to participate in at least two post experience meetings.

- The post experience evaluations of clouddog itself; this will include cross partner evaluations, provider evaluations, individual student evaluations and volunteer evaluations
- Attend and participate in a follow-up social event/meeting where students will be present and certificates will be awarded.

Formal Requirements

- Essential: UK police clearance for working with adolescents and children (CRB Clearance)
- Essential: SA equivalent clearance for working with adolescents and children
- Desired: Previous experience of leading groups and/or mentoring
- Desired: First Aid qualification, minimum.
- Desired: previous experience of working with youth and young people
- Desired: previous experience of travelling in Africa, and specifically South Africa
- Desired: previous trail experience

Application Process

The application process will open each year near by a posted announcement on the website, www.clouddog.org near the month of September. Applicants need to submit their current CV and qualifications accompanied by a statement on their suitability and personal interest /motivation for the programme. If selected to be a leader, participation in the clouddog cycles would commence the following January.