

My experience in Mozambique – Rosie

My time staying in Mozambique and teaching at Rapale International School was genuinely one of the best, and most valuable, experiences of my life. I stayed at the house of Peter and Tanya Watt who were so welcoming and made me feel at home from the very first day. The house is situated on the farm, and is surrounded by beautiful mountainous scenery; this made the fifteen minute walk to school each morning one of my favourite times of the day.

Rapale International School is an incredible place that I hope to return to one day. The staff are so committed to giving every child a fantastic education, and creating an inspiring and nurturing environment for learning. I spent my first week observing lessons across all the different age-groups, and then met with the headteacher, Mike Green, to compose my timetable. This was created according to which subjects and classes I was the most interested in teaching. One of my highlights was teaching English to the Grade 2 class, who were such an enthusiastic and lovely group of children. After all the lessons that I taught, I was given brilliant constructive feedback from the class teachers- the feedback I was given from the Grade 4 teacher helped me improve my teaching immensely, and I know I will take it forward as I hopefully pursue a career in Education/Psychology.



As well as teaching full classes, I was given opportunities to work in smaller groups, as well as one to one. I worked with two ESL boys who had recently moved to Mozambique and had very limited English. We worked through books together, practiced writing/spelling, and had a lot of fun playing educational games. Seeing their development was incredibly rewarding. I also taught Drama to Grade 1's, and directed drama sketches for Grade 8's for when they visited Interact. Interact is a scheme whereby the older children go into the local communities and interact with/play games/perform Christian drama sketches to the local children. This was another one of my highlights, and it was so sweet to see the children's faces light up when they saw our buses arrive.

Outside of school, I was able to really explore the beauty of Mozambique. We often went on dog walks to the dam at sunset, and I was also lucky enough to go on the Staff Retreat to Chocas - the most breath-taking beach in the world.

My relationship with God flourished vastly in two months. There were a multitude of occasions where I really witnessed God at work; additionally, being surrounded by people who are really 'living

out' their faith was such an inspiring environment to in. Tanya worked through the Bible with me, and I was also part of a Church small group where I was challenged and encouraged in my faith.

I would highly recommend the GTA programme at Rapale to anyone who is considering going to Mozambique, it was one of the best decisions I've ever made!

