A TRIP TO NEPAL
Duha Jasim

Over the summer of 2019, I was blessed with a fantastic opportunity to carry out some teaching in Dang, Nepal in a government funded school called HVP (Hindu Vidyapeeh-Nepal). I taught students ranging in age from 11-16 years of age English by creating my own lesson plans, activities, and invigilating exams. This great volunteering opportunity allowed me to build amazing friendships with my students and staff and Sir Yogi who kindly opened up his home for us. Myself and the other volunteers stayed at the Children’s Peace Home orphanage, which Sir Yogi has built in his home where he and his wife looked after many children where they take them to HVP everyday where Sir Yogi is the principle. He believes strongly in the impact of good education and his vision is to help as many children get good free education which they deserve. My whole stay was very inspiring and motivational as I saw how his kindness and love for other humans created a such a positive impact on these children’s lives. I believe the best way for me to get across how beautiful and amazing this experience was is by creating a visual report using some of the photographs I took, but even then the photos can’t do the actual views I saw justice but I hope they bring you somewhat closer to feeling my colourful and vibrant experience with me.

Dang and HVP school

After landing in Kathmandu, Nepal we had to take a 16 hour coach journey to get to Dang, a much smaller village. As tiring and somewhat uncomfortable the journey was, the amazing views on our way kept us going!

Arriving in Dang. Sir Yogi kindly gave us rooftop rooms which meant we had amazing views of the mountains! Throughout our stay, we were served amazing food (especially the fresh mangoes from their mango tree) and were welcomed so warmly by the children at the peace home and his family. They were really understanding and supportive when we got probably unnecessarily scared by the huge amount of bugs!
The food was amazing! Living in a village meant most of our food was very organic and collected from their own fields. You can definitely taste the freshness.

Everyday we took the school bus with the children to get to school where we taught approximately 4 English classes a day to classes of around 40 students. I have never met such energetic, enthusiastic, and kind students! It was a pleasure teaching them.
On the weekends, Sir Yogi encouraged us to see other sites in Nepal! Particularly, he recommended Lumbini, the birth place of the Buddha. The beautiful Temples were amazing to look at and the architecture was beautiful!

Another highly recommended place was Pokhara, a site with beautiful views and a peaceful lake to take a wonderful boat ride on!
The People

If I had to state what the best part of my experience was, it had to be all the people I met! With the children, I spent most my evenings helping them with their homework, as well as joining in with their evening prayer sessions. We had many conversations about my life and their life and they introduced and educated me about so many things about their culture! I felt so welcome. Sir Yogi in his spare time also gave us philosophy and yoga lessons which were so enlightening. I hope sometime in the future I could pay Nepal another visit to see them again!
Some final pictures

Here is a collection of some more of my favourite photos from when I carried out a quick visit to Kathmandu at the end of my volunteering experience. Without the support from Pembroke College, I wouldn’t have been able to be a part of this unforgettable experience which widened my horizons, allowed me to develop my skills and increased my knowledge on other cultures around the world!
To see a World in a Grain of sand
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand
And Eternity in an hour.

Arise, Awake, Stop Not Till The Goal Is reached

KDU VIDYAPEETH-NEPAL
Residential English Medium High School
Ghorahi, Dang

IF YOU HAVE GOOD THOUGHTS, THEY WILL SHINE OUT OF YOUR FACE LIKE SUNBEAMS.