

Apply today and you could be... A Clinical Lecturer at the Trinity Nursing School in Malawi

What's the context and purpose of the role?

In 2004, Malawi's health care situation was described as 'dangerously close to collapse'. Poor pay, difficult working conditions and lack of support meant that an alarming proportion of health workers were leaving the health service to work abroad. Things have improved a lot since then, with the Malawian Ministry of Health, the Department for International Development, VSO and other non-governmental organisations working together to ensure that Malawian health workers stay in Malawi and get the financial and professional support they so desperately need. But there's still a lot to do. Trinity Nursing School is part of Trinity Hospital and was founded in the mid-sixties. The school is looking for a qualified nurse with teaching experience to provide quality clinical instruction and supervision to nurse students. You'll make a direct contribution to strengthening the skills of health professionals in the country.

What does the role involve?

- Planning, implementing and evaluating student timetables and clinical objectives
- Demonstrating, supervising and assessing nursing procedures in tutorial practical teaching and on the ward
- Writing reports on students' performance and preparing students for examinations
- Building strong relationships with other teaching staff and participating in in-service training

What skills, experience and personal qualities are needed for the role?

You'll need to be a qualified and registered nurse with at least 3 years' post-qualification experience. A teaching qualification is also required and you should have experience in supervising student nurses. As with all VSO placements you'll need to be patient and flexible and have the ability to work creatively with limited resources.

And the rest...

Malawi is a land-locked country whose area is one-fifth covered in water. Magnificent Lake Malawi is Africa's third largest lake with astounding sub-aqua life - it can feel a bit like snorkelling in an aquarium! The climate is generally hot, although in winter, between May and October it can get quite cold at night. October to December is the hot dry season when temperatures can rise to over 40 degrees C. Most of the rainfall happens between December and March. However the rainy season doesn't mean endless days of rain, the sun still appears frequently but when it rains it tends to deluge! You'll live in an apartment on the hospital campus, close to Blantyre, Malawi's largest city in the Southern Region of the country. Malawi is fortunate in having quite a variety of food available all year around and well stocked supermarkets and specialist shops are available in Blantyre.

