

**Apply today and you could be...**  
**A Paediatrician at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre, Malawi**

**What's the context and purpose of the role?**

In 2005, Malawi's public health services were described as 'dangerously close to collapse.' That year, VSO became part of a coordinated effort to make improvements across the country, lead by the Malawian Ministry of Health and supported by DFID. Half way through the six-year partnership, 60 doctors are being trained a year instead of 20. Working at the teaching and referral hospital in Blantyre in a 200 bed paediatric ward, you'll take a key role in strengthening the future of care in Malawi. Combining teaching and clinical supervision of medical students, you'll help build the paediatrics expertise of the next generation of Malawian doctors. You'll also undertake clinical work, morning meetings, ward rounds, and afternoon clinics, providing life-saving care for some of the most acutely ill children in Malawi.

**What does the role involve?**

- Assisting in the review and management of specialist cases in the ward and the under-fives clinic
- Attending the specialist clinic for chronically sick children
- Diagnosing and managing childhood diseases and organising the paediatric out-patient clinic
- Assisting in the management of the paediatric ward and developing protocols and procedures
- Providing in-service training for hospital staff and teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year medical students
- As a RCPCH/VSO Fellow, you'll receive mentorship from Professor Liz Molyneux. Currently the placement is OPE supported by the College.



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

You'll be ST2 or above, with three years' experience in paediatrics. An interest in HIV & AIDS and international child health would be helpful. You'll need the flexibility to adapt your approaches to working with less diagnostics and fewer drugs than in the UK, and the passion and good humour to take on challenges and build working relationships.

**And the rest...**

The name Malawi means 'reflected light of bright haze', a most apt description of this country whose area is one fifth covered by water. Besides the magnificent Lake, Malawi has five National Parks, beautiful scenery and year round sunshine. You'll be based in lively Blantyre, Malawi's largest city and main commercial centre on the Shire River.

We'll ask you to commit to 12 months, to make a sustainable contribution to paediatrics in Malawi. In return, we'll give you comprehensive training before your placement, and our financial support includes living allowance, return flights, accommodation, insurance, cover for GMC registration and more. If you pay into an NHS pension then your pensions contributions are eligible to be covered by the UK government. When you return home, we'll help you to resettle, and many of our returned volunteers stay involved with us long after their placement ends.

Interested? Apply now to be there in February 2009: <http://www.vso.org.uk/volunteering/stepthree/>