



EDUCATION OFFICER, PITCAIRN ISLAND

At a Glance:

Working as the Education Officer on Pitcairn Island, you will be working in a community of fewer than fifty people in one of the most isolated places in the world. You'll have responsibility for a mixed-age classroom with just a handful of students and will get to know them and their families really well. You will have considerable autonomy in your work and will be able to push forward your vision of teaching and learning.

At the same time, you will have more than enough time to get to know the community and the island. From community fishing, to days out on visiting cruise ships, working together to process molasses out of sugar cane or else tucking in on a great feast during a community dinner, you will have many opportunities to be part of Pitcairn culture. Some of the other activities previous teachers have enjoyed include tramping, fishing, weaving, swimming, and reading.

Due to the unique and challenging nature of this job, you are strongly encouraged to get in touch with the current Education Officer to learn more about it. You may email school@pitcairn.gov.pn You may also reach out to the Pitcairn Island Administrator and the Pitcairn Island Office. It will be useful to reflect on "Why Pitcairn?" and show this in your application.

The Education Officer role:

The Education Officer is in charge of the government school and responsible for delivering or overseeing compulsory education for all children on island between the years of 5 to 16. At the point of writing, there are three enrolled students in school, who are nominally year 6, year 7 and year 9 but are being taught according to their current level and needs. One of the students has an IEP. The education officer is supported by a teaching aide, who is employed with the funding available for the

student with additional learning needs. There are also two younger children on island, the oldest of whom turned three in spring 2021 and is currently receiving informal preschool education by a family friend.

The Pitcairn Island Office in Auckland provides and manages your contract, and offers logistical support. You will be offered a competitive package, as well as free accommodation and bills. Contract length is for a year with a bonus of one month's salary on completion. The contract can be extended by a year by mutual agreement.

Person Specification | The ideal candidate

- Professional training and full qualification as a teacher.
- Knowledge of the New Zealand curriculum or the ability to acquire it before taking up post.
- At least six years teaching experience, across the curriculum and with various year groups/grades.
- Multi-grade teaching experience, preferably in a small school context.
- Early years experience.
- Experience teaching individuals with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.
- Experience working with students with a language and knowledge gap.
- School management and leadership experience, in at least two different schools.
- Experience supporting distant learners.
- Experience working cooperatively with other professionals in a small teams.
- Experience providing sex and relationships education at appropriate age levels.
- Experience providing Keeping Ourselves Safe education at appropriate age levels.
- Knowledge and understanding of child protection and safeguarding procedures.
- Resilience, patience and tact and the ability to work in an isolated community and a challenging environment.
- Self-reliance.
- An interest in outdoor leisure activities relevant to island life (e.g. fishing, boating, building, weaving) may also be helpful.

Note that you will be expected to pass a medical.

Teaching and Learning in Pulau School

Your responsibilities will include:

EDUCATION

- Developing teaching and learning programmes in accordance with the New Zealand Curriculum.
- Supervising and directing the Teaching Aide.
- Supporting and directing the Culture Teacher, as needed.
- Moderating assessment data with an appointed New Zealand contact (your Mentor), to ensure accurate reporting to parents.
- Facilitating distance education for those children who choose to enrol in secondary education via Te Kura, previously known as Correspondence School.
- Preschool support and management, if needed.

RESOURCING AND FINANCES

- Resourcing the school as necessary via clear communication with the Community Divisional Manager, who is responsible for the School's budget and resourcing.
- Reporting to the Community Divisional Manager on use of finances and assets purchased to support learning programmes.
- Reporting property concerns and maintenance issues to the Community Divisional Manager.

PARENTS AND COMMUNITY

- Communicating your curriculum choices to parents as appropriate.
- Developing and promoting a learning partnership between home, school and community.
- Fostering a climate of trust and cooperation, by consultation with parents, and by involving the community in the life of the school.

Principal internal and external contacts

On island: Administrator; Community Divisional Manager responsible for approving and monitoring budget expenditure; Pitcairn Island Council members; contracted staff: Doctor, Community Police Officer, and the Family and Community Advisor.

Off Island: Pitcairn Island Office; UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office deputy Governor; DFID Education Advisor.

Reporting requirements

As the Education Officer, you are formally accountable to the Governor of the Pitcairn Islands, who is also the British High Commissioner to New Zealand.

Your line manager will be the Pitcairn Island Administrator, a senior British diplomat representing the Governor on Island. The Administrator will oversee performance appraisal and management on behalf of the Governor.

On day-to-day operational matters, the Education Officer reports to the Community Divisional Manager.

The Education Officer is expected to produce written progress reports, as follows:

- Formal reporting to parents in the beginning and end of the school years.
- Other reporting to parents as needed - e.g. mid-year, curriculum overviews, term letters etc.
- Assessment moderation notes shared with the Administrator.
- Monthly updates sent to the Administrator, Deputy Governor, Pitcairn Island Office, Division Manager and DFID.
- End-of-contract handover notes for the next Education Officer.

A note on Child Protection and Safeguarding:

As the teacher, you will have frequent contact with, and intimate knowledge of, the children under your care. You will be a key member of a team of professionals who are contracted under Her Majesty's Government to work on the island. These are the Medical Officer, Family and Community Advisor, the Police Officer and a senior British diplomat acting as the Island Administrator.

All contracted professionals have a shared responsibility to cooperate in safeguarding the children on the island. This includes taking an active part in groups with a child protection mandate, set up under Pitcairn's Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures under the Children's Ordinance. You will also regularly meet with the Review Group - a team of residents and contracted professionals as part of the island's Safeguarding procedures.

Safeguarding protocol:

You will be reporting to the Administrator, who is also the Children's Officer.

Post Supervision:

The Education Officer is a senior post, which may entail unpredictable and varied tasks. One of the biggest resilience challenges stems from the need to maintain professional and personal discretion at all times. A New Zealand professional contact of your choice will support you as a Mentor in moderating data on island as part of your reporting requirements. They will also act as a source of support. The supervision role is expected to entail a monitoring system to ensure you have someone to consult, gain feedback from, and review practice with. If you need support to find a Mentor, the Pitcairn Island Office will offer assistance.