

Language Assistant Programme

by Lisa Hielscher, German LA 2015



Working as a German foreign language assistant in Auckland has been a very fulfilling and life-enhancing experience for me. Not only was I exposed to various teaching styles and approaches but I also benefited from immersing myself in the Kiwi culture and life in New Zealand.

As diverse as my experiences were the tasks I accomplished at school. Laminating pictures, designing course material for my teachers, preparing classes for scholarship students, translating texts into German, giving presentations about Germany and participating in after school activities such as the Goethe Society German Quiz were, among countless other tasks, an enriching experience for me.

However, working at four schools, assisting seven teachers and learning so many different student names and relating to them can be quite demanding from time to time. Nevertheless, I enjoyed every day at work and in New Zealand itself. I spent a wonderful time in Auckland developing my English language skills, amassing much cultural knowledge and always having considerable involvement in the classroom.

It has been a privilege working with my teachers, mentors and supervisors, who always supported me and gave me advice when I needed it. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for the support and opportunities I was provided with during my tenure. Their mentoring support has encouraged me, and I hope that we will continue our relationship as I move forward in my career as a student teacher in Germany.

