



**MISSION TRIP
APPLICATION
2016-2017**



By God's grace, The King's Christian School is launching our Missions Trips for Easter Week, 2016. Our high school teams will be serving in England, Arizona, and New York City, and the middle school team will be serving in Washington DC. We are very excited about the opportunities that God is providing for us. Please prayerfully and carefully consider serving with us. Information and a brief timeline are below. If you have any questions about the trips or the application process, please contact Mr. Savidge.

1. Pray for God's leading.

Seek His will regarding your involvement in one of these ministry trips. Talk it over with your parents, and seek their wisdom. They must be on board with your decision.

2. Review the FAQ.

The FAQ is part of this packet.

3. Fill out the written application in full.

Complete all answers thoughtfully and carefully. Turn it in to the office by the announced deadline: **Friday, September 23, 2016.**

4. Sign up for an interview time.

You will be asked several questions by a panel of teachers and/or students. Relax, be honest, and share from your heart.

5. If you are selected for a team, you will need to attend the parent and student meeting and the first team meeting.

If you are selected to a team, the final step prior to acceptance is the mandatory parent-student meeting on **TBA**. At this meeting you and your parents will learn more about the trips and the fundraising process. You and your parents will sign your pledge to the team and your commitment to be a part of this ministry. Additionally, at this meeting you will need to submit a \$100 deposit.

6. Fundraising letters are due by Friday, October 28, 2016.

Completed fundraising letters need to be submitted by Friday, June 5. The letter needs to contain:

1. The letter from the team member
2. A letter from the missions committee
3. A response card
4. A return envelope

Team members are encouraged to continue to send out additional fundraising letters throughout the year if needed. The enclosures for the letter (committee letter, response card and return envelope) will be available in the TKCS high school office.

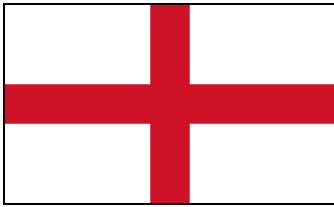
7. Team members will need to raise the full amount of the trip.

There are deadlines throughout the year.

Contact information: Danelle Stow
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Trip Descriptions and Costs 2016



High School Trip: South Africa

Trip Cost: \$2800*

Trip Description: This spring TKCS is partnering with Fellowship Alliance Southern Africa (FASA) for a short term missions project in Lephalale, South Africa! Students will participate in and lead ministry activities with children and youth, sharing the love and hope found only

in Jesus. The team will be staying on the FASA property in Lephalale and serving with FASA missionaries in local schools and community centers, and in a nearby orphanage. This missions project will have lifelong impact not only in the lives of children and youth in South Africa, but also in the lives of the TKCS team members!



High School Trip: Jamaica

Trip Cost: \$2200*

Trip Description: This will be our third trip to Jamaica working with Kingdom Builders Ministries in Whitehouse, Jamaica. The team learn about the about ministry amidst the serious poverty of Jamaica outside the resorts. The team will be serving in various children's and service

ministries as well as evangelism.



High School Trip: New York City

Trip Cost: \$1200*

Trip Description: The High School will be returning to New York in partnership with Center for Student Missions. Even though New York is close by, the team will serve and communicate God's love in different areas than we are custom to. Activities will address the needs of the

urban poor and will include a variety of opportunities such as after-school programs, food banks, senior ministries and homeless ministries.



Middle School Trip: Philadelphia

Trip Cost: \$850*

Trip Description: The Middle School will be returning to Philadelphia PA in partnership with the Center for Student Missions. Even though Philadelphia is close by, the team will serve and communicate God's love in areas very different that the stadiums and museums. Activities will

address the needs of the urban poor and will include a variety of opportunities such as after-school programs, food banks, senior ministries and homeless ministries.

*These amounts are estimates. Trip costs may be adjusted based on the number of team members and cost of transportation.



Application & Team selection

How many students can go on the trip?

Any student in grades 7-12 who is willing to commit to a year of discipleship and to working hard as part of a team, will be placed on a ministry team. The number of trips scheduled will be based on the number of students who apply. Due to the limited resources available at the locations, and learning from experience the optimal number for maximum effectiveness, most teams will have a maximum of 13 students.

How old do students need to be?

Applicants must be current TKCS students in grades 7-12.

What type of students are you looking for?

- We are looking for students who are passionate about their walk with Jesus Christ and passionate about reaching others.
- We are looking for students who are already involved in ministry here in the U.S. and would like to broaden their horizons of impact.
- We are looking for students who can commit to a team and are willing to work very hard.
- We are looking for students who are flexible and who do not quickly complain.
- We are looking for students of integrity who are trustworthy whether or not adults are looking.

What if a student isn't really spiritually mature, wouldn't going on a trip like this help them to grow?

Absolutely. Spending a year in the Word, being discipled and held accountable is one of the most effective ways to grow closer to Christ. Ministry needs to come out of the overflow of what God is already doing in a student's life. So, as long as a student is willing to be an active part of the team and to grow and be held accountable, it is our desire to place them on a team. The Missions Committee strives to match students with the team that will best fit their gifts and walk.

If a student misses the deadline for application, but later desires to join the team, may they still go?

Usually not. We will seek to fill each team this spring. If, in the fall, there are openings on any team, we may open applications to new team members. Generally, we will give priority to new students and then to students who can provide a compelling spiritual reason for why they did not apply in the spring.

How will students be selected?

Students will submit a written application and be interviewed by a panel of teachers and students. Based on their written and interview responses, recommendations, and on the committee's knowledge of their character and Christian walk, the committee will place students on a team based on their desired country, gift/talents, and other factors.

Ministry

With whom are you partnering on the field?

TKCS will be partnering with established ministries, missionaries, and other Christian schools, based in the locations to which we are heading. Some sites/countries have been served on previous TKCS missions trips; others are new. All trips are to safe, stable locations, suitable for teen travel and ministry. TKCS seeks to build long-term relationships with the ministries we visit.



What types of ministries will be done on the trips?

The main and most effective type of ministry that will occur on the trips is personal, friendly, spiritual conversation with teens and children in these countries. Students may also spend part of their time living with host families to whom they will also minister through their example and conversations. Besides that, the primary purposes of the trips will vary by site. Some will be primarily service-oriented trips focused on meeting the physical or social needs of others or the property needs of the site ministry. Other trips will be primarily evangelistic in nature and may feature music, drama, sports, puppets, public sharing of testimonies, lessons, and storytelling. Some trips may be sports-focused and others may be primarily musical. All will also involve physical set-up and clean-up. In addition, team members will be ministering to their prayer and financial supporters through update letters and also the rest of the Pre-K-12th grade students at TKCS through chapels and testimonies.

What type of preparation will be done before the trip departs?

Personal spiritual discipleship will occur throughout the year of preparation. Students will journal, read selected books, and pray/share with each other. Each team will meet after school on a Wednesday about once every month, as well as once a month on Monday mornings before school. Some evening or Saturday meetings may also be needed.

Finances and Fundraising

How much money do we need to raise?

Fundraising is done based on the total cost of each ministry trip, with each member being responsible for raising at least a minimum portion of that total. Individual support minimums for **domestic trips** will range from \$400-\$1800, depending on location. Individual support minimums for **international trips** will range from \$1100-\$3000, depending on location.

I don't like (or don't want my kids) asking other people for money. Do we have to raise support from others or can we just pay for the trip out of our own pocket?

Asking people for money is never easy. But thankfully, what we are asking for is not just money, and certainly not money for ourselves. We are asking for people to prayerfully support our ministry and to prayerfully consider financially supporting that ministry as well. Remember that God's work done God's way, for God's glory never lacks God's provision.

Students and parents are free to donate as much or as little to their own or other teams accounts as they wish. However, students who have their entire minimum support donated by only one or a few individuals may miss out on the true experience of missions by limiting their prayer supporters, not having their faith stretched, not having to work and contribute their own earnings toward the trip, etc. Pray for wisdom in how your family approaches this issue.

Regardless of how the money is raised, each team member is required to raise at least 10 specific prayer supporters who will commit to praying for them over the next year and during the trip.

What if we can't raise the entire amount?

God reveals His will in many ways. It may be that He reveals His desire that a student not attend by not providing the financial resources in time. Of course, we cannot blame God if we do not faithfully do our part of working and asking. Sometimes, one student helps the team raise more than his/her minimum amount, but since the actual trip will end up costing more than the sum of the minimum amounts (meaning both teams will need to do some group fundraising as a whole), the overage in one student's



account would need to be pretty substantial to cover a major deficit for another. The bottom line is that each student must raise their minimum amount by the announced deadline.

What if we raise the full amount, but are unable to go?

Once a donation is made to the ministry, money may not be returned to the donors, as this is a violation of IRS regulations and as the trip still has expenses which this student's absence does not automatically negate. Therefore, whenever possible, the team will retrieve refunds and, so long as the total expenses of the trip are covered, leftover funds raised by this student will remain designated for this student for use on a future TKCS missions trip. If the student decides not to (or is unable to) go on a future TKCS missions trip, this money will remain in the general missions fund, to be used for future missions trips.

Can donations be returned to the donor?

No. See above.

Will the students need spending money as well?

Yes. Spending money for souvenirs and a few meals will need to be brought with them on the trip. We will discuss this in much greater detail in the months preceding the trips.

Are there any up-front costs?

Yes. If preliminarily selected for a team, each student will need to pay a \$100 deposit. The deposit is due at the first, required parent meeting. This initial deposit will be applied to the student's fundraising goal.

What should be in the support letter?

There are many sample mission trip letter templates online. A simple search will lead you to many of them. But generally, you should follow these guidelines:

- Make it personal. Try to include a personal greeting to each person. The main parts of the letter can be the same for everyone, but you should include some personal greeting.
- Include three points: 1) what I am doing 2) where I am going and 3) what I am asking for.
- Ask for financial and prayer for support.
- Refer to the reply card and envelope.

What other ways are there to raise funds for the trip?

Each student is responsible for meeting their goal. There are many creative means to raise funds for a mission trip. Think about some of these ideas as examples:

- Instead of birthday or Christmas gifts, ask family and friends to donate to your mission trip instead.
- Get a part time job and support your trip with some of your income.
- Have a bake sale, yard sale, car wash or other fundraiser.
- Ask your church if you can present your trip to the congregation and ask them to pray for you.

Can parents donate the entire amount needed to meet the goal?

Yes, they can. We do suggest that letters are sent to family, friends and your church leaders asking them to support the student in prayer. Even if you are not asking for money, the prayers of others is even more important.

Who should we send support letter too? How many letters should we send?

It's sometimes hard to determine how many letters to send out. Examples of those who you may consider contacting include:



- Your immediate family
- Your extended family and relatives (uncles, aunts, cousins, etc.)
- Your friends
- Christian parents of your friends
- Friends of your parents/family
- Your home church (maybe the church congregation can help support you)
- People you know at your home church
- Other churches that you have a relationship with (both individual people as well as the church congregation possibly supporting you)
- People at your workplace
- Your neighbors (both current and previous)
- Your doctor, dentist, hairdresser/barber, insurance agent, etc.
- Your Christmas card list
- Your wedding list

Travel & Safety

Do we need a passport? Other identification?

Domestic trips do not require a passport. International trips will require a passport. Students will be given information on this process. If the team is flying domestically, the student will need proper identification.

Do we need any special shots or vaccines?

Not usually.

Will the trips be physically and emotionally demanding?

Yes. All trips will involve 16-hour days, plenty of walking, and plenty of physical activity (sports, activities, set-up, clean-up, etc.). All trips will require students to be able to carry their own luggage (limited to one suitcase and one backpack) without assistance. Students need to be willing to eat and sleep when told to, so as not to diminish their ministry due to lack of energy. International and some domestic trips will involve long flights and shifting time zones. Students need to be willing to adjust to changing schedules without complaining.

Are the countries safe?

International trips are limited to countries that are modern, stable democracies with whom the United States has an established and strong diplomatic relationship. Though we will be taking obvious safety and supervision measures as we would with any school trip, our protection is just as much in God's hands in another country as it is in our own. God's sovereignty, omniscience, and omnipotence aren't limited by borders. Beyond the normal and expected safety measures, we will also be training our students in some common pitfalls of international travel.

What medical facilities are available?

Selected countries have modern health facilities within close distance from where we will be ministering.

Who will be supervising the trips?

Each team will have at least 2-3 TKCS chaperones supervising, in addition to the missionaries and other adults with whom we will be serving.



International Students

Can international students participate in a mission trip?

Absolutely! International students are encouraged to apply for a trip.

Are there additional documents for international students participate in an overseas mission trip?

No. International students traveling overseas for a mission trip should already have the necessary documents: a valid passport with blank visa pages and a valid I-20 to return to the US.



2017 Team Member Application

Application due: Friday September 23, 2016

Name _____
First Middle Last

Address _____
Street City State Zip Code

Home Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____

E-Mail _____ Date of Birth _____

Church you attend _____

Your grade level for 2016-2017: _____

For High School students: After praying about your answer, please indicate which trip you are applying for.

- _____ South Africa
- _____ Jamaica
- _____ New York City
- _____ No preference

If your chosen trip is full, would you consider another trip? If so, which one?

QUESTIONS: Please think carefully about the following questions. Answer each question. **Use additional paper if needed.**

1. Have you come to know Jesus Christ as your Savior?
 - a. If yes, please describe how you came to know Jesus as Savior and what it means to you.

2. Describe you current spiritual activities (church activities, devotions, Bible reading, etc.).

3. Have you participated in any previous mission trips? If so please describe them?

4. Why are you interested in participating in this mission trip?

5. What do you believe are your gifts and talents? How do you see yourself contributing to the team?

6. Will you participate in any mission trips this upcoming summer or during the school year? If so, please describe the trip.

7. Are you willing to attend all meeting and meet the fundraising requirements of our missions program?

Signature

Date



Mission Trip Student Contract

I, _____, am pleased to have been considered to participate on a Short-term Missions Trip sponsored by The King's Christian School (TKCS)

I hereby promise and agree to abide by the following rules and procedures while participating in this program:

- I will participate fully in the team training schedule, activities and assignments. I understand that my attendance at team meetings and training sessions is essential for preparing for the mission trip and for team unity. I will not schedule other activities, work, or doctor's appointments during designated team training times.
- I will prayerfully commit to raising all funds necessary for this trip. I will send out an appropriate number of support letters and will be diligent in sending thank you notes and updates to my sponsors and donors.
- I will identify at least ten (10) persons to agree to be prayer partners.
- I will abide by all regulations and all instructions given by the representatives/teachers of TKCS and the partnering mission organizations.
- I will not purchase, use or have in my possession any tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs (unless prescribed by a doctor) during this mission trip.
- I will be considerate and cautious in the use of a camera, music player or cell phone if I should choose to bring one. I understand that taking photos may be offensive and inappropriate at times. I will follow the guidelines for photo taking set by the partnering mission organization and my team leaders. I understand that I may not be able to have a cell phone with me, and will not rely on a phone for picture-taking.
- If permitted to bring an electronic device or cell phone, I will not use them except when permission has been given to do so. I understand that I will not be permitted to bring a phone to a ministry site.
- I promise to convey the Christ-centered values of The King's Christian School through my own personal actions at all times.

By signing this statement, I agree to the rules and procedures stated above. I understand that if I choose not to follow these rules and procedures, I may/will immediately be sent home at the expense of my parents.



Student's Covenant

Covenant: I agree that with God's grace I will support the mission's team and give of myself in a tireless and positive manner. I will seek to learn from the culture I'm visiting and to treat the host culture with great respect. Understanding that mission projects require a lot of physical and mental work, in every opportunity I will seek to give of myself 100% as I learn and serve on this mission project.

Signature of Student

Date

Parent's Covenant

Covenant: I have prayed with my child about their participation in a mission trip sponsored by the King's Christian School. I will support my child by praying for them diligently and encouraging them as they prepare to serve God on this trip. I will encourage and support my child in meeting the fundraising goals of the team. I will ensure that my child attends all meetings and training sessions of the team. In the rare instance where my child is unable to attend a meeting, I will ensure that the team leader is notified in advance.

Signature of Parent

Date

Guardian Covenant

Covenant: I have prayed with my international student about their participation in a mission trip sponsored by the King's Christian School. I will support my international student by praying for them diligently and encouraging them as they prepare to serve God on this trip. I will ensure that my international student attends all meetings and training sessions of the team. In the rare instance where my international student is unable to attend a meeting, I will ensure that the team leader is notified in advance.

Signature of Guardian

Date