



KickStart GHANA

Progress Through Sport and Education

KickStart Ghana testimonial

Name: Tom Surr

Q. When did you volunteer with KickStart Ghana?

I volunteered with KickStart Ghana in 2010 - on top of the fundraising work we did, we were in Ghana from 4th-26th September.

Q. How long did you volunteer for?

I spent two weeks volunteering.

Q. What did you enjoy about volunteering with KickStart Ghana?

It was a life-changing and life-affirming experience for me - there's no other way to describe it! The way the whole volunteer experience was managed, from the first days of fundraising up to the two weeks of volunteer work itself and the involvement I have continued to have with the charity and the volunteers since then, was fantastic. As a group, we were left to our own devices largely, but I felt that support and guidance was always available from the Daves at KickStart Ghana. Their visits to us in Exeter were timely and helped us keep a perspective on what we were doing, both the fundraising and the volunteer work we were building towards. I found the football coaching project the most enjoyable and rewarding, but all three projects I worked on (painting St. Cecilia's and the summer club at Mama Viak's) were fantastic in their own right.

Q. What was your favourite thing about Ghana?

The culture – it was unlike anything I had experienced before. The food, the laid back approach to life, the music, the people – it was all a refreshing change from Britain. The culture shock I felt coming back to the UK was much stronger than I felt going out to Ghana – settling into Ghanaian life seemed very easy in comparison to settling back into British life.

Q. Would you recommend volunteering with KickStart Ghana to others?

Absolutely – in fact I have already recommended it to a number of my friends who have expressed interest in coming out with me in the future.