



Church Mission Society Gap Year

If you do have further questions
please contact the recruitment team
at vro@churchmissionsociety.org
or on **01865 787428**.





Recruitment: Gap Year

Church Mission Society has been supporting people in mission around the world for more than 200 years, so we've built up relationships with many global partners. This means that your brief time of four months to one year with CMS can help build long-term work. We want to extend this challenge to young adults aged 18–25, to lend a hand in the work God is doing in numerous communities around the world.



Where will I go and what will I do?

Church Mission Society has good relationships with church networks, community-based organisations and NGOs in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe and Latin America. This means we have access to a wide range of mission opportunities.

You will be placed alongside current CMS mission partners or local partners to join in with the work they are already doing. This way you will be in the thick of it, helping with and enriching the activities our partners are involved with, and seeing how God is working both in his partners and by his Spirit in the context.



How to apply

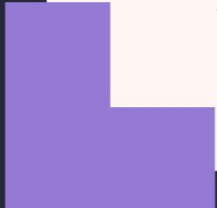
To join our Gap programme, you need to fill in an enquiry form and we'll invite you in for an initial interview. During the interview we'll chat with you about placements and answer any questions you have. If after the first interview we are both happy to proceed, we will take up references and arrange for you to meet with an independent counsellor to discuss any wellbeing concerns that you may have. We will then invite you for a second interview, where you will have an opportunity to speak with the CMS manager for the region you are planning to go to and, wherever possible, to meet (virtually!) local staff from the placement so that you can meet them and ask any questions that you may have.



Training and preparation

Before you head off overseas, you'll be prepared for the experience through our 12-day residential training course. During this formative time you will meet other people going overseas, be challenged in your thinking and faith, and learn more about Church Mission Society. We will also get a medical clearance and a DBS check done.

**With Jesus
With each other
To the edges**



Recruitment: Process

Complete an enquiry form and return it to CMS with your CV.

Attend an initial interview (via zoom or at CMS House in Oxford) where we can begin to get to know you and you can discover more about CMS.

If after first interview we are both happy to proceed we will: invite you for follow up interviews, take up three references (clergy/church leader, employer/tutor, personal), we will also arrange for you to meet with an independent counsellor to discuss your wellbeing needs

If both you and we are happy then we will select you for a Gap placement subject to DBS check, medical clearance and your location being confirmed. We will ask you to complete a GAP agreement and return it to us together with payment of £500 towards your health clearance, DBS check, a contribution to training and a debrief upon your return.

Attend a follow up interview at CMS House in Oxford where you will meet relevant regional managers and, wherever possible, you will meet local staff (via zoom) from the placement that you are planning to go to.

You will attend forMission, which is our 12-day residential CMS induction and training.

About 6 weeks prior to your departure, we will process your final health clearance through Thrive Worldwide.

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Recruitment: Details



Support

CMS has been supporting people overseas for more than 200 years and all of our placements have been set up with good local supervision in place. You will also be assigned a regional personnel officer, part of the CMS UK staff team, who will be your first port of call. They will keep in touch with you before, during and after your placement to help you deal with any issues. CMS regional managers travel regularly to the regions (some live there!) and may be able to visit you during your time in location. As well as all this we are signed up to the Global Connections Code of Best Practice, which ensures we are meeting a high standard in the running of our programmes.



After you return

When you return to the UK, you will visit the CMS office again for a debrief with the regional personnel officer and the regional manager.

Church Mission Society is a community of people in mission and we invite you to continue to network with like-minded people near you and through the alumni network, Meraki. We also offer opportunities to contribute to the life of the community in various ways.

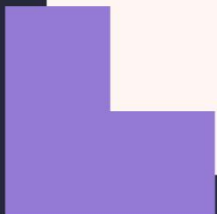
Overall, we hope that this time away will just be the beginning of your missional life! If you're off to university or a first job we hope you'll be as much alive with eyes open to mission there as you were overseas.



Costs

We require a support charge of £500 to contribute towards the costs of the training, as well as a medical clearance and a DBS check.

You will be responsible for all your financial costs, including travel/transport, living costs, health cover and travel insurance. We may be able to offer advice on how much you would need to budget for. In our experience you would need to raise £5–8,000 per year, depending on location.





Recruitment:

“Is it for me?”

Is a Gap year right for me? What we're looking for and what you can expect to get out of a Gap year with CMS.



We're looking for at least one of these...

- You want to be challenged in your faith.
- You're keen to learn from others.
- You're flexible and open to new experiences.
- You want to see what God is doing around the world.
- You want to discern and test out a sense of calling.
- You want to learn more about the global church.



You can expect to...

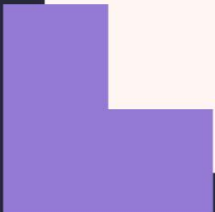
- Grow in your faith.
- Experience God in new ways.
- Learn from others – those you serve and those supporting you.
- Gain new practical and professional skills.
- Grow in understanding of the importance and relevance of world mission and global Christianity.
- Get to know yourself more, understand how you respond to new challenges and have a growing sense of calling
- Experience the global church and different styles of worship.

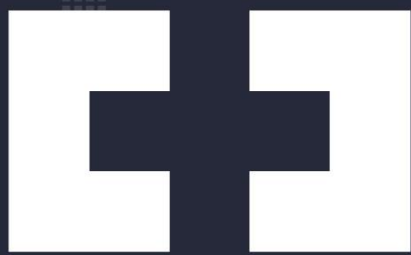


For further information about Church Mission Society, go to our website where you can find the following information: [who we are](#), [our history](#), [our work](#), [news and stories](#), [mission focuses and mission principles](#)

For more information or to ask any questions, please get in touch with the recruitment team on **01865 787428** or email vro@churchmissionsociety.org

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CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY

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