



Dansk ICYE

International Cultural Youth Exchange



Activity dates: 1 March - 12 December 2026

Deadline to apply: 18th January 2025

2 volunteer positions

VESTJYLLANDS HØJSKOLE

Garden - Permaculture - Youth Community

WELCOME

Vestjyllands Højskole is a Danish folk high school on the wild West Coast — close to the sea, the dunes and open skies. We are a residential, non-formal learning community where students and volunteers live, work and learn together. Our approach is hands-on: creative practice, community life and ecological stewardship.

Number of residents: 50–70 (most aged 18–30)

Language: Danish, with English support for international participants

WHAT IS A HØJSKOLE

A folk high school (højskole) is a non-formal, residential school without exams or academic entry requirements. Teaching is practice-based and dialogue-driven. Stays typically last several months; participants receive a diploma of attendance.



VOLUNTEER MISSION

Volunteers assist the garden and maintenance teams and become part of everyday school life.

Main responsibilities:

- **Garden work** — sowing, planting, weeding, harvesting, crop care
 - **Soil health** — compost, mulching, fertility management
 - **Animal care** — basic feeding and pasture tasks (seasonal)
 - **Carpentry & maintenance** — small builds, repairs and upcycling projects
 - **Community contribution** — help with events, kitchen support and shared tasks
- Volunteers with specific skills (carpentry, permaculture design, art projects) are encouraged to lead or initiate small projects.

We are looking for people who are:

- Interested in regenerative farming and permaculture
 - Prepared for practical outdoor work in all weather conditions
 - Flexible, initiative-driven and able to cooperate in groups
 - Comfortable working independently when needed
 - (Optional) Experienced in gardening or carpentry — a bonus, not required
- We value curiosity, responsibility and a willingness to learn.

OUR GREEN PROFILE

Vestjyllands Højskole has a long, documented commitment to ecological practice.

- **Organic kitchen** — 90–100% organic meals, much produced on site
- **Renewable energy** — wind and solar power cover most of our needs
- **Regenerative farming** — permaculture design and soil-building as core methods
- **Certifications & awards** — Green Flag, Fairtrade, Rav-Aage Prize (Thise Mejeri)
- **Community projects** — mentoring, Nordic collaborations and local partnerships
- **Sustainability is lived daily** — in the food, energy, building, workshops and curriculum.

LAND AND GARDENS

Total area: 10 hectares

Garden systems (designed on permaculture principles):

- Market garden — vegetables for the kitchen
- Forest garden — perennial polyculture
- Alley-cropping fruit field — integrated tree/field systems
- Biodynamic garden — run with local community participation
- Tea & herbal garden — medicinal and culinary herbs

Other site features: windmill, solar panels, outdoor kitchen, compost toilet, sheep field, crop area, and student-built tiny houses (natural & reused materials).



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Duration: flexible — (state the specific placement length when advertising)

Working hours: depends on season & tasks — typically shared between morning and afternoon garden shifts with evenings free for workshops and community life.

Safety & orientation: Induction provided on arrival. Basic tools and personal protective equipment supplied where needed.



CONDITIONS

- **Accommodation:** Private room in school housing
- **Meals:** Three organic meals per day (mostly from school gardens and local producers)
- **Facilities:** Access to workshops, music room, dance hall, library, gym and outdoor areas
- **Language:** Main language Danish; English used where needed — good English recommended

APPLICATION

Please note: We only accept applications through our [official application form](#), which must be sent to our email address **esc.incoming@icye.dk**