

## **AIA - All abroad**

**An extraordinary school project at the ESBZ to learn about other cultures, global awareness, self-confidence and languages.**

Our school, the “Evangelische Schule Berlin Zentrum (ESBZ)”, has been running a special learning project for 13 years. In year 11, all students travel to a country of their choice in Europe or beyond in the spring of each year and spend three months living and learning in an environment and culture that was previously rather foreign to them.

During this time, the students are involved in a social, cultural, ecological or similar project, which they have to find themselves (and of course with the help of their parents) from the beginning of year 11, and which also provides them with food and accommodation if possible. As a rule, they only have to pay for the trip there and work on site for 4-6 hours every working day, possibly more in agriculture. To cover their travel costs, they may also organize their own crowdfunding methods among friends and relatives.

The never-quite-easy search for a destination is part of the unusual school project, in which the students first have to decide what they would like to focus their experience on and in which country.

They also have to research the route themselves, which should be as environmentally friendly as possible and avoid air travel. The young people can set off on a project alone or in pairs, up to a maximum of three. If a three-month stay there is not possible, they may also combine two destinations.

Following the stay abroad, all the experiences gained are reviewed together during reflection days at the school and then exhibited so that pupils in later AiA years can also benefit from them.

At the school, three specially trained AiA coordinators from the teaching staff and around 20 volunteer parent-coaches provide advice on the selection of destinations and ultimately approve the trips, which must be applied for by mid-February of each year using ready-made forms in the “Its learning” learning platform. In cases of doubt, a specially formed “AiA Committee” of the school, which meets regularly under the chairmanship of the principal, decides. Detailed information and the latest news can be found in the “ESBZ online forum” under the heading “Year 11: All abroad AiA” (<https://forum.esbz.org/c/schule-informiert/aia/236>), where parents and students can also post questions.

We wish you every success in your search! And many thanks to all those who give our students the opportunity to stay abroad, work there and broaden their everyday horizons! Because you have to experience the world to understand how colorful and diverse it is.

Our address:

**Evangelische Schule Berlin Zentrum (ESBZ) – AiA-Project**

**Wallstraße 32**

**D-10179 Berlin-Mitte, Germany**

**0049-30-2576071-0 / [info@ev-schule-zentrum.de](mailto:info@ev-schule-zentrum.de) / Homepage: [www.ev-schule-zentrum.de](http://www.ev-schule-zentrum.de)**