



Why Friends of Irise?





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An opportunity for students who care about women's rights and empowerment to take **practical action** and make a **tangible difference**.

Skilled volunteering NOT voluntourism



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

How have we worked with Friends of Irise in the past?

1. Fundraising

We're a small charity and every penny makes a difference. Student fundraising is vital in enabling us to deliver for women and girls.

It costs us just £6 to reach a girl with the education and pads she needs to stay in school all month long and £25 to train a woman as an entrepreneur.



2. Research Placements

Since we started students have helped us complete essential evaluation and research. Many have gone onto to publish in peer reviewed journals.

Without students help we wouldn't have been able to complete our recent randomised control trial, one of the first ever high quality pieces of work investigating the effect of supporting girls during their periods on their school attendance.



3. Campaigns

Students have participated in our campaigns and helped us raise the profile of the issues nationally and internationally.

Many have written blogs published on our own platform or on Girls' Globe documenting their campaigning.



4. Teaching in Schools

Its important to support girls in our own community as well. Friends of Irise have taught in local schools about gender equality.



5. General Volunteering and internships

Some students have gone on to complete volunteering placements or internships with us. We've been able to offer them tailored mentorship and training and in return they've worked hard to deliver ambitious projects.





“Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

Barack Obama



What's available this year?

1. Teaching in Schools

- An opportunity for up to 10 students to deliver teaching about menstruation, puberty and gender roles to boys and girls in Sheffield schools.
- A research component to be led by a student looking at whether this upstream intervention can help reverse negative trends in girls' happiness and mental health.



2. Placements in Uganda

- Opportunities for students to complete research/evaluation exercises as part of our work. Space for 1-2 students every 2-3 months. Our team are experienced at supervising these placements as part of a dissertation or course assessment.
- An opportunity for 1-2 students as Story Telling Volunteers, Summer 2017. Students visit projects, take photos, conduct interviews and create stories about Irise's work to share with a UK audience. Students receive training on effective Story Telling prior to their placement. Preference to students with a strong fundraising record for Irise.



3. Volunteer Opportunities in the UK

- Long term volunteering either virtual or based in Sheffield for 1-2 students over 3-6 months starting January 2017.
- Students join the team for 1-2 afternoons a week to help fundraise, write grant applications, plan and report Irise's projects.
- Each student a professional development plan for the placement with the aim of developing transferrable skills they can take forward into their future careers.



4. Mentorship

- 1 to 1 mentorship (meetings every 6-8 weeks) for students who are either part of a FOI branch or want to set one up and would like to see their branch achieve more, particularly in terms of fundraising.



“You are educated. You may think of it as the ticket to the good life. Let me ask you to think of an alternative. Think of it as your ticket to change the world.”

Tom Brokaw