



GENERAL INFORMATION ON TECS AND BRIEF JOB PROFILES.

Background Information: TECS is a sister company of The Educational Group “El Centro Inglés”, a school with more than 40 years of experience in bilingual, English-Spanish, education. We are recognised as an official school in every area of education, including languages, by the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science. We are organising members and an examining Centre for the University of Cambridge.

Camp Locations: We have five camps located in Andalucia and one in the community of Madrid. One camp is on the Costa de la Luz in the South-West of Spain: in El Puerto de Santa Maria, **Family Camp**. One camp on the Costa del Sol in Sotogrande, **Star Camp** and three camps in the Sierra de Grazalema and Alcornocales in the village of Grazalema, **Little Village**, in Benaocaz, **Magic Village** and in Hacienda El Barriche close to Alcala de los Gazules, **Go Camp**. **Family Camp Gredos** is located in Avila, outside of Madrid.

Programme and Objectives: The Summer School programme is an activity based language learning programme in which language learning is combined with fun activities like: sports, adventure, excursions, music, computers, art, handicrafts, nature, songs, games, parties. The objective is for Spanish Children to learn English whilst enjoying themselves in a camp atmosphere.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How long has TECS been operating summer camps? We have been running summer camps successfully since 1997. We have expanded from having 50 students and one site in our first year to over 1600 campers throughout the summer on our six different sites.

How many staff and campers are there on the camps at any one time? **Family Camp** (El Puerto de Santa Maria) has 200-220 students, allocated within three age groups: Sophomores (6-10), Juniors (10-13) and Seniors (13-17). **Family Camp Gredos** (Ávila) has 60-80 students, in two age groups: Pioneers (8-11) and Freshman (12-15). **Star Camp** (Sotogrande) has 50-60 campers in one age group, Seniors (13-17/18). **Little Village** (Grazalema) has 80 campers aged 13-17 (Anglos). **Magic Village** has 80 campers, aged 10-13 (Juniors), and **Go Camp** around 60-80 campers in one age group, Pioneers 7-12. We recruit around 180-200 staff of which around 80 are Camp Monitors and around 60 Camp Teachers.

How long do I need to work for? We have contracts for 4, 6 and 8 weeks (all have at least five days of training (management positions more) before the camp starts). In **Family Camp Gredos, Star Camp, Go Camp, Little Village and Magic Village** we only offer 4 week contracts (with a small possibility of 2 week contract) in July and in **Family Camp** 6 (but not many) or 8 week contracts, July to August, and a few 4 week contracts in August only (generally for returnee staff members).

Where exactly are the camps located? **Family Camp** in El Puerto is located in the outskirts of the town of El Puerto de Santa Maria which has a population of around 90,000 in winter and up to 250,000 in the summer. In El Puerto we use the facilities of our sister company the “English Centre” bilingual school, meaning the camp is excellently equipped in all areas from classes to sports facilities. **Family Camp Gredos** is located outside of Madrid, in Avila, in the Sierra de Gredos, a beautiful area in the mountains. **Star Camp** in Sotogrande is also located on the outskirts of a small town. Star Camp is run in a hotel, meaning the facilities are of a high standard, although not necessary a common summer camp location. **Family Camp and Star Camps** are all located close to the beach. **Magic Village, Go Camp and Little Village (new location)** are located in Sierras (hill ranges) in the provinces of Cadiz and use camp site/activity centre facilities which have log cabins and youth hostel like accommodation. They are all located in beautiful locations and have a mixture of indoor and outdoor classrooms. **Family Camp**, El Puerto, facilities are owned by TECS but all other venues are rented for the summer months. In the event of contract offer, training for ALL CAMPS takes place in **Family Camp**.

What is the difference between the programmes offered on each? As this is such a key question, please also see the notes at the end of this document for a complete description. **Star, Family Camp Gredos and Family Camp** all run a “Full Immersion English” programme, **Magic Village** “Natural English” and **Little Village** “Total English”. **Go Camp** runs an “Immersion English” camp and is the ONLY camp where a mixture of Spanish and English is used by staff. Both **Magic Village and Star Camp** have “Total English” moments throughout the day. **Family Camp, Family Camp**

Gredos, Magic Village and Little Village have active multi-activity programmes although Family Camp also offers some extra activities where students go offsite. **Star Camp** offers an exciting extra activity programme and **Go Camp** runs an adventure activity programme mixed in with swimming pool time. Colour War (a big camp wide competition between Blue and White) is run in **Family Camp, Family Camp Gredos, Little Village, and in Star Camp** and a Harry Potter style House Competition between 4 teams is run in **Magic Village** and in **Go Camp**. All camps run exciting; action packed evening entertainments which tend to be the highlight of the camp day.

What are the working hours like? These are outlined in detail on the job profiles but in general camp hours are long and camp life nothing like 9-5 living. Camp days are structured similarly to American Camps with staff being involved in a wide range of activities throughout the day. Generally all positions have between 3-4 hours off during the day and some nights off each week. All staff have one full day off at the weekend. Little Village camp offers slightly less intensive working hours for teachers (not for monitors) than the other camps as the quality of teaching in this camp is expected to be of an extremely high level and hence for this reason teachers are allocated more time to lesson planning. Teachers in Go Camp during the week only teach and don't have programme responsibilities because they have longer teacher contact time in the class running two different classes per day.

Will I enjoy camp life? Not everyone suits the dynamics of camp life, but those who do, generally love it. Having the "camp personality" is usually the key to enjoying the job. Being naturally energetic, enthusiastic, positive, charismatic, and willing to make a fool of yourself, probably just about sums up the "camp personality". If you feel your personality doesn't match two or more of these characteristics it is probably best not to apply to summer camp work. We suggest that all people thinking about work on summer camp **do the employment suitability quiz located at www.tecs.es/employment**. We also suggest to teacher applicants especially that they consider what type of camp teaching may suit them best, see end of this document, as although we believe no experience in any of our camps is better or easier than the other ones, it is true nonetheless that each of the environments, suits better different types of teachers.

Why should I apply? Working with children is undoubtedly one of the most rewarding jobs anyone can do. Working with foreign language children, although challenging, is again something that for the right people is extremely gratifying. Working with TECS, for our monitors can be a stepping stone into the TEFL world and for our teachers it offers the opportunity to build upon their teaching experience within the camp environment. TECS and the Centro Inglés are reputable language organisations in Spain and we provide all our successful employees with well regarded references. We also actively practice professional development and because we are a company run by a dynamic team of innovative young managers, we are generally excellent at helping young individuals to fulfil their full potential and we keenly sponsor in house promotion for young capable people (all of top managers were once staff or mid-managers on one of our camps and nearly all of our mid managers have worked on camp before).

Do you have age requirement/ limits? Camp Monitors must be 19 before the start of camp and usually we will not employ Teachers under 21 years of age. There is not a strict age limit for applicants to any position but from experience we have found that 19-25 is generally the best age range for monitors and 22 to 35 best for teaching positions. Applicants of any age are welcome to apply but may have to extra display at the application and/or interview stage that they can, and will, adapt to the physical and emotional demands of camp life. Applicants under 19 may apply to the Assistant Monitor, IT Specialist or Camp Support positions. If you are Spanish and under 19 you can apply to be a Crew Member.

How much experience do I have to have? This obviously depends on the position but in general we are more willing than most camps to recruit staff with little experience but only if we believe they have certain "camp personality" characteristics, like high responsibility, energy and enthusiasm levels. We supply intensive effective training for all positions and usually are keen to spot highly talented young people and provide them with the opportunity to take on high responsibility levels at a young age.

How long are the TEFL classes and what is required of a camp teacher apart from classroom teaching?

Any TEFL professional considering working with TECS should make sure to read the specifics about each camp at the bottom of this document because the requirements vary a bit per camp. However in general it is extremely important that any potential candidate recognise that all Camp Teachers are very much more than just TEFL classroom professionals (with the exception of Go Camp – see notes below). In all camps (including Go Camp), teachers along with a Monitor partner are assigned their own Leader Group to look after and they are also, with the one exception of Go Camp, scheduled to run Arts and Crafts or Projects sessions with the campers on a daily basis, as well as to supervise daily routine care like meal and shower supervision. Also all teachers cover for the monitors for night time supervision on two nights per week (one in Go Camp) and in all camps teachers are required to go on one excursion at the weekend.

Depending on the age group and camp, TEFL classes run for between three and four hours daily. Teachers in Go Camp teach two lots of classes, usually of the same level. Because of this extra contact time, teachers in Go Camp, unlike in

other camps, are not required to do programme responsibilities with the exception of daily lunch supervision and weekend excursion and corresponding night supervision. All Camps, except Go Camp (which has less overall working hours and hence more personal time for planning) have designated teaching planning time every week day, Monday-Thursday, which usually takes place after dinner when the monitors are running the evening entertainments, although this does vary per camp.

Where do we go on excursions? We organise excursions on Saturdays and Sundays to the following places (to name just a few): Gibraltar, Seville, El Puerto de Santa Maria, Jerez, Sancti Petri, Estepona, Malaga, Nerja and Tarifa. Excursions involve general site-seeing as well as trips to: water and fun parks, a zoo, beaches, a whale watching tour and water sports activity centres.

Can I combine work on camp with studying Spanish? Unfortunately Summer Camp life is not combatable with outside commitments due to the nature and intensity of the work and with the one exception of Go Camp the use of Spanish in communication with the campers is obviously prohibited with the obviously exception of emergencies, key safety issues and extremely seriously welfare or discipline issues. However combining working out in Spain with pre or post camp Spanish classes is definitely an excellent way to make the most of your work in Spain experience. TECS staff receives special discounts with our Spark our Spanish in Spain partners, so for more information check out www.brightsparkspanish.com . Spark also runs introductory TEFL courses.

What are the campers like and where do they come from? 95 percent of our campers are Spanish learning English, with the other 5%, mixed nationalities learning Spanish or English. Most of the Spanish campers are from cities in Andalucía, or from Madrid, although students do come from all over Spain. About half are returnees and most campers are motivated English learners.

Are there promotion opportunities? During the length of camp there are not normally opportunities for promotion. However for those who perform well there are possibilities of working in a more senior position the following year. We have staff, mid-management and senior management positions and there is the possibility of all year round work in our academy or part-time free lance work assisting with the recruitment of staff and campers or doing designated TEFL and Camp development. About 75% of our managers are usually returnees and we have had years when all our management staff had worked on a TECS camp before.

What is the normal numbers of campers I will be responsible for? Class sizes will normally be around 11-13 students with Little Village, because of the communicative nature of the learning the exception with around 6-8 students per class. Leader and sports groups vary from 8-15 students, depending on camp and lodging. Each age group has between 50-90 campers.

How long do the campers stay on camp? Most campers stay on camp for 2 weeks, although about 10-15% stay for 4 weeks.

Where do I sleep? Family Camp has a camp site and residence. **Star Camp** staff stay in hotel rooms, which are normally doubles or triples. **Family Camp Gredos** staff sleep in shared accommodation in hostel-like quarters. Monitors in all camps are required to share a room or tent (Family Camp only) with the campers, although some staff working with the older campers will share with other staff in some occasions. Teachers share a room with other teachers but twice a week (once in Go Camp at the weekend) are required to cover for the monitors and sleep in a tent/room with the campers. Coordinators usually share smaller rooms, with other mid-management staff or sometimes with teachers, and Directors normally have their own room but this does depend on the camp. All rooms in **Family Camp** are converted classrooms acting as bedrooms and in **Little Village and Magic Village** rooms are in cabins or large huts.

HOW IS EACH TECS SUMMER CAMP?



All our camps offer an excellent opportunity to enjoy summer camp life and work as an international team. However, the atmosphere on each camp can vary, largely due to their geographical location and English programmes. What follows below is a brief description of how each camp works. We strongly suggest you also look at the camp photos at www.tecs.es as they will really give you more “flavour” of each camp.



See our team in action visit
"tecslife" at
< www.tecs.es >



Family Camp - El Puerto de Santa Maria

VENUE: Our base camp in El Puerto de Santa Maria is situated on the outskirts of a very busy summer beach town. Staff can easily walk to the centre of town and to the beach. It is in very close proximity to coffee shops and supermarkets. The camp could be said to be a little confined however the space is well used. The facilities are our own, in year round school, and with this come a lot of advantages; it has its own computer room with access to the internet for staff to use in their free time and for teachers to use to help prepare classes. The classrooms are modern and air-conditioned although black boards rather than white boards are still used. The sports facilities are also to a high standard and the venue has a superb hall/gym which is excellent for large evening entertainments and for indoor sporting activities. We have been running summer camps at these facilities for the last 13 years which means that this camp is probably the smoothest running of the four camps. This camp is the only camp that runs for the two months of the summer, July and August, and offers a variety of contracts; 4 weeks (normally August only) and 6 weeks are possible, although the majority are for 8 weeks.

ACTIVITY PROGRAMME: The ages of the campers vary from 6 years old up to 17 years old. Due to the wide age range, the campers are divided into 3 Age Groups, Sophomores (6-10) Juniors (10-13) and Seniors (13-17). It is our biggest camp with around 220 campers in July and 150-200 in the two different fortnights in August. All of activity programme is run 100% in English and no level of Spanish is required by staff. The main sports programme is that of multi-activity, offering a mixture of mainly on-site common sports like Football, Basketball, Uni-Hockey etc..., although children can also choose to do extra activities in Tennis, Sailing and also in Super Cool (mixture of mainly water based activities) and Padel in August. All of these activities are run in Spanish as they are organised by partner companies, although we do send our own monitors to supervise safety, group control and to make sure some English is used. There is also the option for campers to do the "Top Music Star" Programme which involves a mixture of musical, theatre and dance and the Basketball Programme both of which are run on-site by TECS Staff in English. Family Camp is the founder camp of both the colour war competition and of the majority of our evening entertainments run in all camps and for that reason the camp could be said to have the most active and dynamic competition and evening activity programme, certainly at least the most popular one currently with campers. In general, Family Camp is an excellent venue for staff looking for a supportive work environment and dynamic faced paced action full programme.

ENGLISH PROGRAMME: This camp runs what we call a "Full Immersion English" programme, with classes being run very similar to those of a well run language academy but using our own authentic TECS Files (student and teacher packs), which are two week English programmes designed to teach normal language themes but with emphasis on useful language for summer camp life and of course a big focus on fun, like in all our camps. These TECS Files are well renowned in the Spanish summer camp industry and there has even been interest from well known publishers to publish the material for a wider summer camp market. For this reason, teachers on this camp can be confident that they will be provided with excellent teaching material which consists of: Student Packs, Teacher Notes, Flashcard packs and, in the case of some packs, starting and leaving tests. For all these reasons and the fact that both internet and extra course book material is easily available in this camp, generally Family Camp is the best camp for teachers who are looking for well-oiled support mechanisms and excellent teaching material. However on the other side, because of the very active and hectic nature of three age group programme, Family Camp is also generally better suited to teachers who have a strong interest and passion for outside the classroom camp life as the programme demands on teachers can be quite tiring, although also of course potentially very rewarding as teachers in this camp have a very close contact with the students in all walks of camp life. Classes in "Full Immersion English" are divided in first 1.30-2 hrs built around the TECS Files and the second two hours built around the running of class projects and introduction of language for evening entertainments and excursions. Family Camp, also due to it being the longest running camp, is usually the venue where most resource development at TECS takes place, so for teachers looking to work on resource development this is usually the place to be. English Day, an event where the campers are only allowed to speak in English even between themselves (in Total English style), is also a very important part of this camp being run once a fortnight and operating around introduction of cultural themes. Students in this programme are of mixed levels and every student is level tested on arrival and divided between the 5 or 7 levels per age group, so usually a teacher can feel relatively confident that students are of a similar English level.

Star Camp – Sotogrande

VENUE: Sotogrande is located on the Costa del Sol but still in the province of Cadiz. The camp takes place in NH a 4* exclusive Hotel. This setup offers advantages and disadvantages to the staff and campers. The facilities are very modern and the accommodation and catering is of a very high standard as one would expect of a four star hotel. There is WiFi throughout the whole hotel, although this is only available for staff on a paid basis, arranged personally with the hotel. The accommodation and especially the catering (buffet style for every meal so plenty of options) are obviously of a high standard so this could be said to be camp for those type of people to whom these things are more important. The obvious biggest disadvantage of the venue is that it is shared with the general public, meaning available spaces for activities are more limited than in other camps and also that there is always an element of unpredictability with venue availability. Saying this however, TECS does have two conference halls for our exclusive usage and also our bedrooms are located around one patio available for our usage which combined mean with have enough guaranteed venues for classrooms (which work out quite well will all the needed accessories) and also the bigger hall as a suitable venue for evening



activities with Seniors. Sotogrande is in one of the most exclusive housing zones in Spain, meaning a fair number of foreigners live in the area which also adds to the English learning side of this venue.

ACTIVITY PROGRAMME:

The capacity of this camp is 50-60 campers in one age group, Seniors (13-17/18). The camp is called Star Camp because of the wide range of extra activities offered to the campers, which include: Padel Tennis, Super Cool (a mixture of Water Sport activities), Horse Riding and Golf... Because English speaking companies exist in the local area, all of the extra activities are offered in English which makes the programme a 100% in English. All of the children go off site during sports time, meaning all monitors in this camp are Specialist Monitors as they accompany the children going off to the extra activities. Like in Family Camp, colour war is a big part of the programme and the evening entertainments are usually the highlight of the day for most campers, although of course some evening entertainments are modified due to the nature of the facilities.

This camp is the only TECS camp that runs a Guided Independence programme where the campers are granted certain privileges and freedoms which are not possible in other camps. These include being able to carry their mobile phones at all times (although they can't answer them in controlled activity time), being allowed to bring computer consoles to camp and in general having much more free time. We run the programme in a way that encourages the campers to make the most of this extra responsibility and free time and for that reason educational programmes like Star Camper Award (a 2 week programme like similar in style to the Duke of Edinburgh or President's Award) play important part in this camp as does the appropriate use of educational punishments to make sure campers learn from their mistakes. This is an excellent camp for staff who are looking to connect on a personal, more adult like, way with the campers.

ENGLISH PROGRAMME:

This camp runs the "Full Immersion English" programme using our own TECS Files for part of the class, although the second part of the class is run in the "Total English" communicative style of class. This mix fits in well with our classroom venues as we only have around 4 indoor class venues so teachers rotate in order to be able to use the indoor classes during the more structured "TECS Files" part of the class as the conversation part of the class can be run with no problems in more relaxed like venues, for example in small marquees in the patios of some bedrooms. There are "Total English" moments of the day where campers speak only in English, even amongst themselves. This gives them an extra push to try and challenge themselves with the language. English Day is also an important part of this camp where campers compete in countries throughout the day. This camp probably suits slightly better more experienced teachers who are able to operate with a smaller work support structures than say in Family Camp and also are perhaps looking for a slightly less intensive summer camp experiences as probably due to the smaller size of the camp and elder age of the campers and especially due to the venue itself, the programme in this camp is probably normally less intensive than in other camps, with the possible exception of Little Village. However any teacher considering working in this camp should ideally be confident classroom teacher as client demand in this camp can be high and they must also be excellent at nodding and connecting with teenagers as teachers, as the older and mature role models, are expected to play a leading role in the promotion of successful running of the "Guided Independence programme", a task which is not always easy to achieve.

Little Village – Grazalema



VENUE: Little Village is located in a new location in Cortijo Huerta Dorotea Prado del Rey (Cádiz). The ages of the campers vary from 13 years old up to 17 years old. It is a rural and rustic camp with its own natural beauty which gives it a much more typical "camp" ambience than coastal located camps. Both campers and staff sleep in log cabins which add to the genuine feeling of being on a camp environment. This camp is named Little Village as the idea is that it is an English enclave where absolutely no Spanish is spoken.

ACTIVITY PROGRAMME:

The biggest part of the activity programme in Little Village is the Total English programme itself as it the students have to speak English between themselves at all moments, even chill out/relax ones, so staff on this camp have the added strain of supervising English supervision even more thoroughly than in the other camps. For that reason, all monitors are charged with a very important role in educating the children in English even more so than in other camps. The camp also has a close link to educational development in other areas than English which are achieved through both the Educational Projects and Young Achievers Award. The Educational Projects take place for 2 hours a day for two weeks and students work towards a finished product to present to their parents on departures day, these projects can include, making, acting in and editing a film and writing, practising and performing a song for example. The Young Achievers Award is a personal development programme that inspires the children to take on responsibility and personally work towards improving their English. The programme is similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award but of course run over a 2 week period and adapted to a language camp's needs.

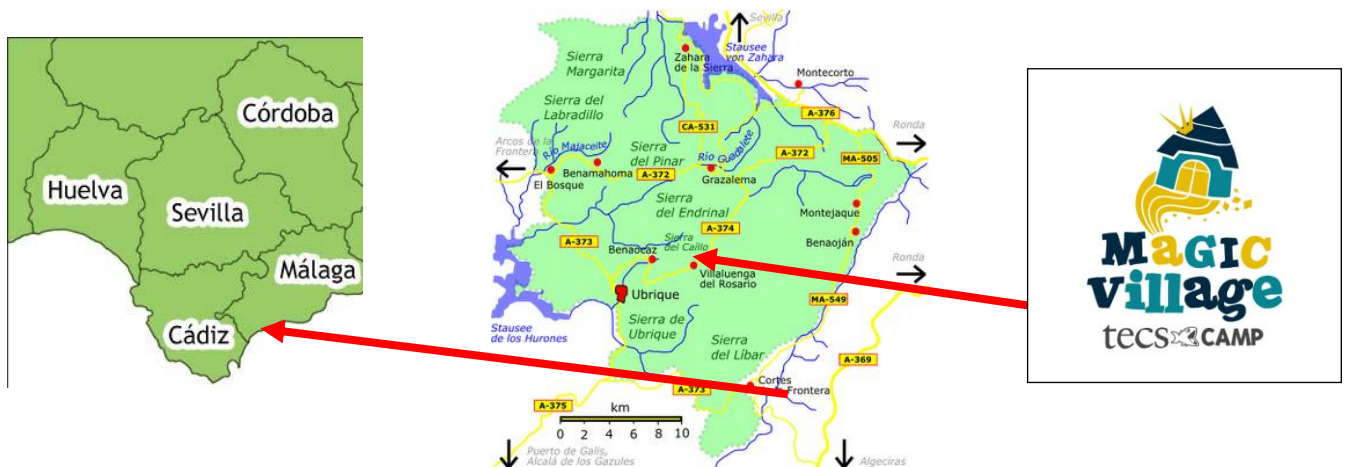
Sports time in this camp is more orientated around activities than just sport and within the multi-activity programme monitors will be asked to play board games, teach dance classes, or watch English films with the campers as much as they will be asked to instruct a football or basketball class. All activities are always done in English and even on excursions campers are only set on day tours that can be run and operated in English.

ENGLISH PROGRAMME:

Little Village runs a pioneering Total English programme which focuses above all on promoting oral learning, with the classes being conversational classes with no worksheets being used or grammar objectives being taught. Teachers are expected on this camp to produce extremely high level of classes which is why they have more time to dedicate to planning than in other camps and also why class sizes are kept very low, around 6-8 students per class. Classes take place partly in indoor areas and partly in outdoor classrooms. In this camp no set syllabus is provided although abundant example conversation class material is, for this reason we especially look for creative teachers for this camp who are capable of planning and conducting conversation classes that they themselves have put together.

To our knowledge Little Village is the only camp of its type in Spain, and perhaps even the only one of its type in Europe where the campers are inspired, motivated and controlled to speak 100% in English during their entire stay on camp. For this reason, and the fact that achieving this goal is not easy by any means, we aim to recruit for this camp, even more than in the other camps, staff in all positions who are inspired by the challenge of promoting and teaching the English language. Little Village is a passionate camp and staff considering working on this camp will be expected to be that way as it only through dedicated and motivated staff that language goals of this camp can be achieved. Campers in this camp are required to have minimum “Lower Intermediate” speaking level because of the language demands of this camp so staff can be confident campers have the ability to communicate but that by no means guarantees campers do it well or have the confidence to use what that have which is of course our job to ensure happens in Little Village.

Magic Village – Benaocaz



VENUE: Benaocaz is a small village in the Sierra de Grazalema in the Cadiz province. The camp is located in a camp site with campers and staff sleeping in “chozos” (which are beautiful tipi shaped small houses). The Magic Village venue has similar benefits and disadvantages of Little Village as venue with the setting being beautiful, accommodation to a good quality and camp having a genuine “camp” atmosphere but of course the facility like Grazalema lacks its own sporting facilities and is quite cut off.

ACTIVITY PROGRAMME:

This camp, like Little Village, is heavily focused around the learning style – Natural English. Although this happens in all TECS Full camps, in Magic Village more so than in any camp, the language taught in the class is structured around what could be used out of it. For this reason programme staff play an essential role in promoting the usage of the language in outside the classroom contexts which is why both the Activity Coordinator and Monitors more so than in any camp have specific knowledge of the day’s language goals. The House Competition and English Star Award play big parts in the promotion of these language themes and every day the House Competition is specifically geared towards the campers using language they learned on camp in a group competition context and the English Star Award promotes usage of the target language on a personal level as campers are given personal daily challenges they have to achieve. This camp is also the most like Little Village, in the way that campers are encouraged, at specific times of the day, to speak only English (even to other campers). This gives campers the extra challenge that takes them closer to a Total English experience. Campers are giving House Competition points when they participate and make great efforts to speak English.

The afternoon activity period runs a multi-activity programme. Daily most activities will be made up of team and water games, common sports like football, uni-hockey and swimming although usually at least one session a day will be an adventure activity be it hiking, orienteering or rock climbing to name a few. Once a week the campers will also have a four hour period of solely adventure activities which will be run by sub-contracted company in off-site location. Like Little Village, a big part of the camp day, is built around a project period, in this camp called “Be the best”, which is a period everyday where campers on a weekly basis work towards becoming “experts” in assigned projects, be that Drama, Dance, Film or Art. Another key element of this camp is that with the one exception of the “Be the Best” period, the campers are assigned to only one group for all parts of the day. This is their House Group

and this grouping of the campers for pastoral care periods, class and activity into this one “House Group” works excellently for increasing staff-camper bonding and for building up association for the competing House in the House Competition.

ENGLISH PROGRAMME:

This camp runs a “Natural English” programme where the whole theory is that campers learn the oral language they really need in day to day camp life but without too much focus being put on teaching grammar. Classes will be split into two parts with the first part being activities and games to introduce the language themes of the day and the second being “English through media” where English is taught using different media, like film/TV., music, drama and comics etc... with the idea being to teach English in a more natural way so that students gain a greater cultural interest and connection to the language which they want to pursue not just during camp but even more so post camp. Teachers will be recruited for this camp on evidence that they can teach English through games and fun activities and also we will be looking for them to have a keen interest in teaching through media, as each teacher will be assigned a specialist medium to teach through for their length on camp. Classes are run in outdoor classrooms set up under marquees but complete with electrical sockets. As the classes are focused more around fun dynamic activities in this camp, generally the class sizes are big bigger, usually around 12-15 campers.

The aim of course is to provide a more comfortable learning environment for students where it is possible to provide a more natural learning environment where campers are not stigmatised but are rather given an equal natural opportunity to bring out the best of their own level. Above all in this camp we aim to inspire personal interest and responsibility in English learning in a way that is far-reaching and long lasting and for that reason we strive to focus English learning on natural way that native learners pick up the language – fun inspired contextual learner. We first ran Natural English in 2009 and feedback from teachers was that with the right teaching approach the objectives can be achieved. For all these reasons, Magic Village is most suited to teachers who are looking to experience a new innovative way of teaching and looking to play their essential part in this exciting project. Like in Full Immersion English full syllabi and material are provided (Student and Teacher Packs and Flashcards), although teachers are given a lot of scope to use their own innovative and fun ways of covering the set language themes. As mentioned above, students are motivated at certain times of the day to speak only in English, having more of a Total English experience at a younger age (than Little Village).

Go Camp – El Barriche (close to Alcala de los Gazules)



VENUE: El Barriche is an activity centre located in the Parque de los Alcornocales and is about 10-15 mins driving from the nearest town, Alcá de los Gazules. It is most cut off of all TECS camps which of course has benefits and disadvantages. The benefits being that it is a completely self-sufficient venue, with very good adventure activity facilities (including an artificial lake), enough indoor facilities for classrooms and evening entertainments and loads of outdoor spaces that can be adapted to many different activities. Not to mention that it also feels very genuinely like a camp which for “outdoor” types makes it a more appealing venue than urban camps like Star and Family Camp. The downsides are that it is cut off from the outside world although to counter this we do sometimes trips to the local town during staff time off. Staff must be prepared for this aspect of camp, as it can be difficult not having connection to amenities such as shops, internet cafés, etc.

ACTIVITY PROGRAMME:

Go Camp runs a Magic Adventure programme during the activity time. This programme consists of a wide selection of adventure activities, like Abseiling, Flying Fox, Canoeing, Rope Bridges and Horse Riding to name a few. All of these activities are run by staff from the activity centre meaning they are run in Spanish. Indeed the unique feature of this camp is that it is the only TECS camp which runs with our staff using a mixture of the two languages, a fact that is brought home clearly to the campers by what colour t-shirt the staff are wearing: Blue = English time and White= Spanish time. The theory of this camp is that it be a stepping stone into the demanding world of full immersion English learning as not every camper is ready to be looked after by a monitor who can only communicate with them in English. For this reason we place a massive importance on this camp on welfare care with the staff’s primary objective to ensure correct integration into the camp and to ensure welfare care is always at hand whenever and however needed. The parents are also allowed a closer contact to the campers in this camp which is achieved through the mid-camp parents’ day and the fact that monitors provide parents with a mid-camp report on how their child is getting on camp. Also in some cases, this is the only camp where parents can actually speak to the monitors directly as in other camps this is controlled by Spanish welfare staff for obvious language reasons.

In this camp English class and lunch and evening activities are always run in English but all other parts of the day, principally and most importantly pastoral care parts of the day, are conducted in Spanish to ensure and guarantee the best welfare care possible. We recruit Spanish speaking monitors for this camp, all English speakers with near Spanish native levels, but each monitor must also be fluent in Spanish which is what makes this camp perfect for past campers and for bi-lingual staff. Monitors in this camp have more time off daily than in other camps which is why they only have one-night supervision off per week at the weekend.

ENGLISH PROGRAMME:

Go Camp runs what is called an “Immersion English” programme so called because the classes are conducted exactly as they are in Family Camp, using the TECS Files but as stated above, the outside the classroom activities aren’t “full immersion” as they are conducted in a mixture of the two languages. Teachers in this camp teach two classes per day and for this reason apart from lunch and weekend excursion supervision are not required to do any other programme responsibilities. Normally teachers will have doubled up levels so in most cases they will only have to plan one class and will have the rare possibility to perfect each class through teaching it a second time. All of this makes this camp ideal for teachers who are looking primarily for teacher contact time as there will be a great opportunity to take teaching skills forward in this camp due to the sole teacher focus of this camp. As teachers have more time on this camp and as English class is the main part of the camper’s English language learning, teachers will be expected to run high quality classes which may make this camp more suited to people with sufficient teaching experience.

Family Camp Gredos- Los Gredos

VENUE: Our northernmost camp in Los Gredos is situated on the outskirts of the Spanish capital, in Avila. The downsides are that it is cut off. Staff and campers will stay in hostel-like rooms or in ‘huts’ on the rural-hotel site. It is a beautiful area to have the summer camp, amidst mountains and lakes, but it is quite isolated. Staff as it can be difficult not having connection to amenities such as shops, internet cafés, etc.



must be prepared for this aspect of camp,

ACTIVITY PROGRAMME: The ages of the campers vary from 8 years old up to 15 years old. Due The campers are divided into 2 Age Groups, Pioneers (8-11) and Freshmen (12-15). There are about 60-80 campers each fortnight in the month of July. All of activity programme is run 100% in English and no level of Spanish is required by staff. The main sports programme is that of multi-activity, offering a mixture of mainly on-site common sports like Football, Basketball, Uni-Hockey etc.. Family Camp Gredos has colour war competition and of the majority of our evening entertainments run in all camps and for that reason the camp could be said to have the most active and dynamic competition and evening activity programme, certainly at least the most popular one currently with campers. Campers use the educational tool, the I-Book, to motivate the campers to speak English and have good behaviour.

ENGLISH PROGRAMME: This camp runs what we call a “Full Immersion English” programme, with classes being run very similar to those of a well run language academy but using our own authentic TECS Files (student and teacher packs), which are two week English programmes designed to teach normal language themes but with emphasis on useful language for summer camp life and of course a big focus on fun, like in all our camps. Teachers on this camp can be confident that they will be provided with excellent teaching material which consists of: Student Packs, Teacher Notes, Flashcard packs and, in the case of some packs, starting and leaving tests. Classes in “Full Immersion English” are divided in first 1.30-2 hrs built around the TECS Files and the second two hours built around the running of class projects and introduction of language for evening entertainments and excursions. Students in this programme are of mixed levels and every student is level tested on arrival and divided between the 5 or 6 levels per age group, so usually a teacher can feel relatively confident that students are of a similar English level.

What is the difference between the English programmes offered on each camp?

Why different English Programmes?

Anyone who has learned a foreign language before will know that there is no one magic way of learning. What works for one student, may not work for another. For that reason, we at TECS are committed to the concept of running our English immersion camps as English programmes with each camp offering a different variety of English activities/classes/programmes to cater to the unique learner personality and needs of a wide range of differing students. We believe ourselves to be at the forefront of English language education for children and our four different English programmes are testaments to that fact. Having different English programmes also allows the students different prospects for progression in each programme, for example a student in Full Immersion English is more likely to advance a bit in all skills area, whereas a student in Natural English may advance less in grammar, reading and writing but more in speaking. We believe that with the right learning environment, one that inspires the use of the language, every child is capable of speaking English.

What should someone know about all our programmes?



- **With the exception of Go Camp (please read Go Camp notes) all our staff on all camps are native English speakers**, unlike many camps which employ English teachers but Spanish monitors. Therefore, with the small exception of some specialist activities (Sailing, Arbolismo etc...), **ALL our monitor-led activities are in English which makes our camps true immersion camps**. Children are not allowed to speak to our staff in Spanish and in all organized activities; their language is monitored to stop Spanish being spoken. In “chill out/relax” moments they are, however, permitted to speak Spanish between themselves (except in Total English), however, they are, of course, constantly encouraged to use English instead. With the exception of Welfare Coordinators and the Camp Nurse when they are talking about key welfare or health issues, our staff will never use Spanish to communicate with the campers in any of our camps.
- Total English goes a step further in the sense that campers are required to speak English between themselves and no Spanish is allowed at any moment, under any circumstances. This approach makes it a **TRUE TOTAL ENGLISH environment**.
- **Go Camp** is the only camp part run in English and Spanish and for this reason has different, but equally inspiring, objectives, which is to act as a secure and comfortable stepping stone for campers to in later years feel comfortable about moving on into the Full Immersion environment.
- TECS has **incredible staff to camper ratios** in all its camp, as we know that **with English the number of native staff** makes a difference.

What is difference between the English Programmes?

First of all, it should be made clear that all our English programmes offer progression in the English language. However one environment may suit the personality of a specific learner type more effectively and may promote more progress in certain skill areas than another English programme.

“Full Immersion English” (in Family, Family Gredos, Star) is our original base form of learning and offers a complete overall learning experience, where advancement can be expected to be achieved in all learning areas (Grammar, Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening). Obviously, more progress in Speaking and Listening is to be expected above all else. In this camp we use our ground-breaking “TECS Files”, original camp textbooks which have been especially designed by our TEFL department to offer 2 week programmes. These textbooks appropriately grade language that is introduced through exciting and useful camp themes and obviously taught to the campers in a fun and inspiring way. Also in “Full Immersion English,” students learn English through stimulating camp projects, like writing letters for the camp magazine and writing a postcard home to their parents. Teachers are also encouraged to run some projects classes out of the classroom to break up the three or four hours of class. Students in these camps will also learn relevant language to use in the evening entertainments so that their English involvement in these events is the maximum possible. We believe this programme offers an excellent overall learning experience and that the programme is suitable for all types and levels of learners. The class part is very similar to what a well-run academy would offer but with more emphasis on camp language provided through our OWN TECS Master Packs.

“Natural English” (in Magic Village) is a programme where we avoid emphasizing grammar learning, and instead focus on inspiring the learner to progress orally by building up their confidence and belief in their own language ability. Teachers are specially selected for their ability to make the learning environment extra enjoyable and motivational and they are encouraged to use as many games and entertaining activities as possible to introduce language themes and vocabulary. In the first part of the class, all the language taught is focused around real language used on camp and the objective is to make children feel so comfortable using the language that they will naturally produce it later on camp. We do not focus too much on precise language accuracy on this camp, and instead try to get the campers to feel that English is a natural form of communication for them. The second part of the class (called “English in Action” on this camp) is dedicated to learning and being exposed to English through different media (Film/T.V./Music /Comics/Drama etc...), with the objective of exposing campers to English to a greater cultural level than school or academy classes can achieve, hence creating a more natural association with English usage. TECS has taken this learning methodology from Scandinavian and the Low Countries, where children learn more English through cultural exposure outside school than they do in English class. On this camp there will also always be ongoing competitions associated to the Natural English programme with both the English Star Award and the House Competition being designed as programmes to maximize the usage of English on camp. These techniques are again based on the theory that the more motivated the learner, the more he/she will speak. This camp is not ideal for students completely new to English; however a high level of English is not required either. As classes are run through more active and fun activities than in other camps, class sizes tend to be a little larger with around 15 students per class, in order to provide enough numbers to make activities dynamic and exciting. Students are not divided by level in this camp which adds to this natural learning experience.

“Total English” (in Little Village) is a programme where the English language encompasses everything and becomes the only language of communication. In class, emphasis is placed on oral learning as classes are run without worksheets and class sizes are kept very small to ensure maximum oral student participation. Outside the classroom, as students are required to speak English between themselves in all moments, the oral and comprehension progress is extremely impressive even though no special focus is given to writing or grammar development. In this camp, extra focus is put on educational development with part of the Total English programme geared toward developing students’ maturity and responsibility levels, which is especially achieved through the unique “TECS Young Achievers Award”. Students in this programme not only improve their oral English dramatically but they also make big steps in learning how to use English as language of communication outside of the classroom, be it through chatting to friends, running sports sessions for their peers (part of the Young Achievers Award) or doing an English presentation to the parents on

departure day. This programme is only suitable for students with intermediate speaking level upwards and a recommendation from a teacher is required for entry to the camp. It is the elite of oral English learning and teachers are carefully selected for this camp.

“Immersion English” (in Go Camp) from the teaching perspective this camp is identical to Full Immersion English with the difference being outside the classroom where organized activities take place in English but pastoral care in Spanish. The objectives in this camp are to achieve of course a more modest English progress but to provide such a comfortable and well supported first experience with language camps that campers wish to progress on to more intensive learning experience of other camps. Welfare Care is of the upmost focus in this camp.



We suggest you access www.tecs.es for photos of last year's summer camps and for photos of the camp venues for 2012. We also suggest you access the staff blog to get in touch with past employees (<http://blogs.tecs.es/>). You can also access our catalogue and some camp videos at this page as well as recruitment magazine.

All job profiles, online application and specific is located at: www.tecs.es/employment

- For camp pictures go to: http://fotos.tecs.es/fotos/main.php?g2_itemId=26250
- For camp videos go to: <http://blogs.tecs.es/blog/category/audio-visual/>
- For the camp blog go to: <http://blogs.tecs.es>
- For why to work on camp: <http://www.youtube.com/TECSTUBE#p/u/4/dV8zUN0GoBI>
- To work out if you suit camp work do the personality test at:
<http://www.tecs.es/employment/doc/Employment%20Suitability%20Questionnaire.pdf>
- For video info on our teaching material: http://www.youtube.com/TECSTUBE#p/u/0/rXUzg_7pzd4
- For Spanish courses go to: www.brightsparkspanish.com

For a summer of a lifetime apply online now at: www.tecs.es/employment

***** Our Spanish in Spain Partners, Spark, offer special discounts on Spanish programmes and TEFL training for TECS applicants. If interested, visit their web, www.sparkme.es, and don't forget to mention you have applied for work with TECS for special discounted prices. *****





SUMMER CAMP EMPLOYMENT

GENERAL NOTES

TECS Summer Camps are an activity based language learning programmes for which we need people who are prepared to work round the clock, organising and directing children's activities. The objective is for Spanish children to learn English whilst enjoying themselves in a camp atmosphere. **No knowledge of Spanish is required for any staff position, although it may be useful for Camp Driver and IT positions.**

CAMP MONITORS

(looking to employ 50)

The Job: A Camp Monitor's duties are three fold:

- Look after the welfare of 10-12 children for their stay on camp.
- Run sports and arts and crafts sessions for a group of 12-15 children.
- Participate and contribute in the running of evening entertainments.

Criteria for selection: The primary basis for selection is that the applicant be an enthusiastic, energetic, and a responsible team player. Previous experience of working with children required. Other factors such as: sporting abilities, art and crafts and music skills and those candidates with creative ideas, will be looked upon favourably.

SPECIALIST MONITORS

(looking to employ around 20)

This position does all the normal responsibilities of a camp monitor but during sports time undertakes certain specialist responsibilities connected to one single activity. We employ specialists in the following areas: Sailing, Water Sports, Tennis, Music and Dance, Arts and Crafts, Adventure Sport, Horse Riding, Administration and Nursing.

Criteria for selection: This position is suitable for any monitor applicant who has a strong interest and some experience in one of the specialist areas noted above.

TEFL MONITOR

(looking to employ 7)

In this position successful candidates carry out all normal responsibilities of Camp Monitors except on one day a week when they will cover for a Camp Teacher in order to allow for observations. TEFL Monitor will also cover for TEFL Teachers in event of illness.

Criteria for selection: This position is ideal for recent TEFL graduates as it allows for a gradual introduction into the world of teaching. All applicants must have a TEFL qualification but no experience is required.

CAMP SUPPORT DRIVERS

(looking to employ 6)

This position would require daily driving the children in an eight seater camp van to activities which are done off site as well as daily collecting and buying supplies from the town centre. It would also involve doing pick ups and drop offs when children arrive and depart from the camp. It will also involve doing certain set up tasks and certain ongoing maintenance tasks.

Criteria for selection: Applicants must have a valid in date driving licence and have three year's driving experience and be comfortable with the prospect of driving an 8 seater van full of noisy children. Some knowledge of Spanish would be preferred. This position is suitable for those candidates wishing to enhance their Spanish rather than work directly with the children.

IT SPECIALIST

(looking to employ 2)

The IT person's primary responsibility is to update on a daily basis the camp's web site. This would involve uploading photos and information. The IT person would also act as the camp photographer and film maker. At times, certain admin duties would also be required. The IT person is also responsible for daily giving out the children's pocket money.

Criteria for selection: The IT person must be effective at working alone. Knowledge of html, windows environment and office suit program is needed and photography and film making skills an asset, although not essential. Previous experience working with money would also be looked upon favourably.

TEFL TEACHERS

(looking to employ 50)

We need EFL teachers who are not only prepared to deliver English lessons, but also run and participate in the organisation and running of camp activities: such as sports, evening entertainments and art workshops.

Criteria for selection: It is essential that our English teachers have either a recognised TEFL or teaching qualification. Other important factors such as: sports, art and crafts and music skills, creative ideas and barrels of enthusiasm will be looked upon favourably. **No knowledge of Spanish required.**

For those with the appropriate qualifications, there are possibilities for future employment in our all year round TEFL academy.

For all complete job profiles, camp personality test and for the online application, access www.tecs.es/employment. Also access www.tecs.es for photos of last year's summer camps.

MANAGEMENT OR ADMINISTRATION POSITIONS

CAMP SITE DIRECTOR

(looking to employ 6)

The Camp Site Director is the overall responsible person on a TECS Camp at all times. They are responsible for man-managing and overseeing mid-management in all parts of their job and are responsible for ensuring quality of all areas of a TECS Camp: activity programme, TEFL classes, welfare and health, camp site and parental communication.

Criteria for Selection: Candidates must have a recognised TEFL qualification and minimum three year's teaching experience and candidates with higher TEFL qualifications and/or D.O.S. experience will be looked upon favourably. A high level of Spanish is a requirement. Candidates must also be highly motivated and quality orientated in order to meet the high demands of this job.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

(looking to employ 3)

This is a position for Spanish speakers ONLY who also have a very high level of English. The Assistant Director is the head of welfare and parental communication on camp. They are also responsible for ensuring the upkeep of the camp site and dealing with telephone calls. The Assistant Director is the second most senior person on camp and will be on site responsible any time the Camp Site Director is off site.

Criteria for selection: Applicants must be very responsible as this is a senior position. They must also be a people person, good at communicating with others and in resolving problems in Spanish and English. Applicants should be comfortable with using all Microsoft Office packages and previous experience of using databases is preferred but not essential.

TEFL COORDINATORS

(looking to employ 9)

This is a mid management position for experienced TEFL teachers who have an interest in stepping into TEFL management. The position involves managing the assigned age group team of teachers, 5-8 teachers, in all TEFL areas and man-managing all staff, up to 20 personal, in the assigned activity programming areas. TEFL Coordinators also teach three or four hours of TEFL every day.

Criteria for selection: TEFL Coordinators must have creative minds and should have an interest in creating resources. They must have a recognised TEFL qualification and three years of TEFL teaching experience. Applicants with knowledge of Spanish preferred, but not essential.

ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

(looking to employ 8)

This is a mid management position for TEFL teachers or recently graduated university students who have had experience working on summer camps in positions of responsibility. Coordinators are responsible for running the entire activity daily programmes of the assigned age group and man-managing in all areas a team of staff of up to 20 teachers and monitors.

Criteria for Selection: Candidates must have vast experience of working with children and some experience of working in a summer camp environment. They must be highly motivated and have relevant experience of man-management in previous work. Applicants with knowledge of Spanish preferred, but not essential.

WELFARE COORDINATORS

(looking to employ 7)

This is a position for Spanish applicants only with a very high level of English. Welfare Coordinators are responsible for overseeing the welfare and discipline of all the children in an age group. This evolves talking to children and parents in Spanish and devising ways to help "problem" children integrate themselves into camp life. This position is perfect for Spanish candidates who wish to develop their English language skills.

Criteria for selection: Welfare Coordinators must have caring personalities and be comfortable dealing with emotional issues of children, as the principal part of their job is helping Spanish campers integrate smoothly into the English speaking camp environment.

SPECIALIST COORDINATORS

(looking to employ 1)

This is a mid-management position for people wishing to make the first step into camp management and who have a passion for Arts and Crafts. This position primary responsibility is to run in all areas the A+C programme on our camps but they also manage all specialist monitors in the carrying out of their specialist responsibilities.

Criteria for Selection: Candidates must have vast experience of working with children and some experience of working in a summer camp environment. They must be highly motivated and have shown themselves in past work of being capable of moving into management work.

CAMP SECRETARY

(looking to employ 1)

This position requires the applicants to start at the beginning of February. The Camp Secretary is responsible for inserting all inscriptions into the camp database and producing all camp lists. They will also assist with all general administration tasks within the camp central office.

Criteria for selection: This position is suitable for young applicants looking for an economical way to learn Spanish and live in Spain. Applicants who are comfortable with using Microsoft Office packages and have some experience of using databases are preferred but not essential. Basic knowledge of Spanish required.

For those with the appropriate qualifications, there are possibilities for future employment in our all year round TEFL academy and for management staff as part of our all year round camp organisation team.

For all complete job profiles, camp personality test and for the online application, access www.tecs.es/employment.

Also access www.tecs.es for photos of last year's summer camps.