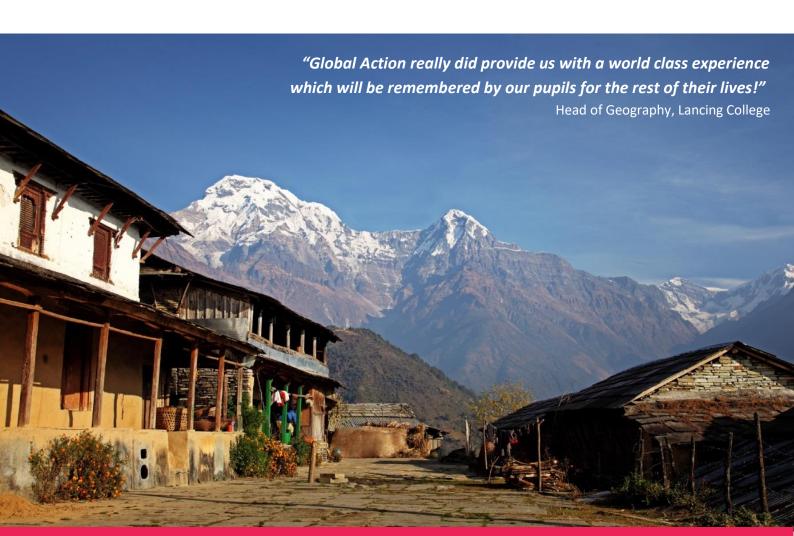


global learning for positive change



# Nepal Annapurna

Spring 2026





# Your Global Action Programme

At Global Action, we believe in engaging young people in Global Learning about poverty reduction, environmental issues and social justice. This develops Global Citizens, able to effect positive global change for the future.

Global Action programmes engage students with global issues, carefully designed around the UN agreed Sustainable Development Goals. Your trip will explore how these goals are being achieved on an international scale, and what still needs to be done.





"It has been an amazing trip and whilst being fun and exciting, it was very educational and something I'll never forget." Student, Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Horncastle

# Why Nepal?

Nepal hosts 8 out of the 10 highest mountain peaks in the world, including Mount Everest. With spectacular mountains, forests, rivers and jungle, together with its rich and diverse cultures, Nepal offers an educational, adventurous, and hugely inspiring destination!

From the World Heritage palaces of Kathmandu to the world-famous Annapurna National Park, Nepal offers a diversity of locations for you to learn about:

- **Community Development**: Under the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, support a high-impact poverty-reduction programme; learn about: NGOs, sustainable development, and natural hazards resilience
- Refugees: community integration, livelihoods and social justice
- Sustainable Tourism: ecotourism and sustainable resource management



### Useful facts

**Geography:** You will first visit the capital, Kathmandu, and are then based in Pokhara (Western Nepal), and the surrounding foothills of the spectacular Annapurna National Park.

**Climate:** In March-April, Nepal is warm, with average temperatures of 12- 24° C. At higher altitudes, temperatures are cooler with temperatures of around 5-10° C.

Languages: Nepali is the national language and English is widely understood.

**Culture:** Hinduism and Buddhism co-exist peacefully in Nepal, to the extent where both religions share some of the same deities and temples. You will learn about Buddhist beliefs and meditation.

**Physical rating:** This is a moderate trip; the ability to walk for 6-7 hours per day, for 5 days, at up to 3,210m with a daysack is required.

**Accommodation:** You will be staying in comfortable Hotels in Kathmandu and Pokhara, and in Guest Houses during the trek. During your community project, you will be staying in a community hall.

### Sample itinerary

#### **Build Up Day**

The day before departure, all team members will meet at the school. Your Global Action Leader will check your kit, and run through health and safety briefings. To prepare for your meetings, you can watch short films on the charities you will be visiting, and design questions for the managers.

#### Days 1 – 2: UK – Kathmandu

Your exciting Himalayan adventure begins with an overnight flight, arriving the following day in Kathmandu, the ancient capital of Nepal, set against the backdrop of the Great Himalayan Mountain Range. On arrival in Kathmandu, you will meet your Nepali guides and travel to your hotel.

In the late afternoon, you can explore the magical old Kathmandu, with its colourful markets, shops, temples, and shrines, often hidden away in the most unlikely places!





#### Day 3: Nepalese Development, History and Buddhism

In Kathmandu, you enjoy a couple of interactive workshops with experts at inspirational international agencies working at the forefront of poverty reduction and conservation in Nepal:

- **UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office:** learn how the UK is supporting international development in Nepal, ranging from women's empowerment, humanitarian work, work on climate change, nature and global health.
- The International Centre for Integrated Development: learn how migration, globalisation and climate change is influencing mountain communities and landscapes.
- World Wildlife Fund Nepal: learn about their Living Himalayas Initiative promoting conservation and protecting endangered wildlife throughout the Himalayas.

In the afternoon, you will learn about Nepalese history and Buddhism with a visit to the **UNESCO World Heritage sites of Boudhanath Stupa**. Stupas are built to house holy relics, and the stunning Stupa of Boudhanath is one of the holiest Buddhist sites in Asia, believed to be built around a piece of bone that belonged to Gautama Buddha. The stupa dates back to the 7<sup>th</sup> century and is one of the largest in Nepal. You will join the local community, traders and pilgrims from Tibet saying their prayers, as well as exploring the magnificent **Sakyapa Monastery** and receiving an introduction into **Buddhism**.

#### Day 4: Kathmandu – Pokhara

Today you will travel West to Pokhara, a beautiful lakeside city at the foot of the Annapurna mountain range. En route you will learn about traditional rice agriculture and irrigation. In the afternoon, you will arrive in Pokhara, and check into your accommodation.

#### Days 5 – 7: Poverty Reduction Project and Cultural Exchange

A highlight of your trip will be working on a poverty reduction project in the Pokhara area. Some of our teams are hosted during their community projects at Tashi Ling Tibetan camp, where they experience amazing hospitality and a unique cultural exchange.

Following the Dalai Lama's escape from Tibet in 1959, four Tibetan refugee camps were established in the Pokhara area of Nepal. One of these is the Tashi Ling Refugee camp, established in 1964 by the United Nation High Commission for Refugees. Currently 400 Tibetans live here, and their main source of income is from carpet weaving, and the sale of souvenirs. Other teams stay in the community they are completing the project work in.

Over the next 3 days, you will be working alongside local families to implement the project. Typical projects include:

- **Provision of Safe Drinking Water**: Installing a water tank at a local school to provide safe clean drinking water. This helps reduce illness and disease, and increases attendance at school, improving local education.
- School Classroom: building a new school classroom or renovation of old classrooms.







Our projects director in Pokhara will be working with the local community over 6 months to ensure this project is well designed, feasible within time constraints, and all project materials will be on site prior to your arrival. The project will be interspersed with the opportunity to learn about the local culture and Buddhism, a chance to teach English or play sports with local children, visit the monastery and learn how to make 'momos' with the local ladies.

One afternoon you will also visit the fantastic **International Mountain Museum,** to learn about: the flora, fauna and geology of the Himalayas, the history of mountaineering, and how locals are responding to climate change.

On the final night, there will be a special Tibetan song and dance show performed by the children. They will be practicing for weeks before you arrive. You may well be expected to share your own song and dance culture too, so be prepared!

Whilst staying in Pokhara you will visit the **Gurkha Welfare Trust** Headquarters, a UK Charity, to learn how Nepalese officers serving in the British Army coordinate development to remote mountain communities. For over 200 years, the Nepalese have been recruited into the famous Gurkha regiments of the British Army – a practice which continues today. The Patron of the Trust is HRH The Prince of Wales. You will learn how this inspirational charity supports vulnerable communities in the area by:

- Building schools, bridges, clean water and sanitation systems (to reduce disease and infant mortality rates)
- Providing medical camps, disaster relief and healthcare support to Gurkha pensioners
- Supporting Gurkha veterans in Residential Homes





Days 8 - 12: Trekking in the Annapurna Conservation Area

Over the next five days, you will enjoy a superb, trek in the foothills of the Himalayan Mountains! You will ascend slowly from subtropical to Alpine zones, starting in fine oak, magnolia and rhododendron forests, and enjoy a diversity of wildlife: brightly-coloured birds, monkeys, soaring golden eagles, butterflies, and if you are quiet deer, or Himalayan tahr!

This will be a fully-supported trek, which means you will carry daysacks only (with waterproofs, water and snacks), as your rucksacks/holdalls will be carried by porters. The path winds through remote mountain villages and farms, and as the trail opens out you can enjoy spectacular views above the clouds of the **world-famous Annapurna peaks** (Annapurna I to IV, plus Annapurna South), the distinctive Machapuchare, (known as the 'fish tail' or 'Himalayan Matterhorn') and Dhaulagiri.





During the trek, your days will be simple – waking early, walking 5-6 hours a day, enjoying delicious meals, and sleeping like you have never done before! The evenings will be filled with stories from your guides, and group-led discussions on our experiences.

You will meet welcoming villagers from Gurung, Magar and Thakali ethnic groups, and learn about their distinct culture and history. You stay in comfortable Nepalese-run trek lodges, which provides a critical source of income to these mountain communities.

You will trek to **Poon Hill** on day 3 to see the sunrise, and enjoy one of the best locations in Nepal to see the stunning views of the Annapurna mountains. Watching the breath-taking sunrise over the whole Himalayan chain of mountains will remain with us forever!

#### Days 13 – 14: Kathmandu – World Religions, history, and relaxation

Returning to Kathmandu for the final part of your trip, you will visit the magnificent **Kopan Monastery**, overlooking the Kathmandu Valley. Kopan is in a very tranquil location, away from the hectic pace of Kathmandu – the perfect place to relax and reflect at the end of your trip!

Dominated by a huge Bodhi tree, Kopan was once home to the astrologer to the King of Nepal. Now, Kopan is a thriving Buddhist monastery housing 360 monks and 380 nuns, and it is a spiritual oasis for visitors from around the world. You can learn how the monastery is **preserving the religious and cultural heritage of Tibet,** and has become a renowned international centre for study and meditation.



You then have a guided walking tour of Kathmandu's **Durbar Square**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. You can learn about Nepal's fascinating history, which used to be three kingdoms, before the unification of Nepal by King Prithvi Shah in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. The square houses beautiful 15<sup>th</sup> century palaces of the Malla and Shah Kings, surrounded by spectacular temples and architecture that showcase the intricate carving skills of the Newari artists and craftsmen. Afterwards, you will have the opportunity to visit local markets filled with exquisite textiles, jewellery, and intricate wood carvings.

#### Day 15: Kathmandu – UK

Today, you will check into Tribhuvan International Airport to fly home. Your team can reflect on your unique adventure in Nepal, the work of international agencies to help create a better future for Nepal, and your own achievements to improve the lives of a marginalised community. You arrive in the UK in the early evening, with memories to last a lifetime and The ASDAN Universities Award!

"Global Action were really well organised - they picked guides and leaders well, and our safety was always their priority. The community work gave me a huge sense of satisfaction and reminded me of how little others have, and to appreciate what I do have."

# Charities and Organisations we support in Nepal

In 2015, Global Action was one of the first organisations to send UK school groups to help Nepal's post-earthquake recovery. Since 2015, Global Action have invested over **US\$40,000** into high-impact community projects in West Nepal. Our UK school teams have:

- ✓ Rebuilt Gogan Higher School, enabling children to go back to school after the earthquake
- ✓ Installed the first water systems for primary schools in Kathmandu and Pokhara, at a blind school and in a refugee camp
- ✓ Rebuilt a community weaving centre, which is now generating sustainable income

Our Nepal projects director is on the board of the Nepal Red Cross, and has over 20 years' experience in coordinating local projects. **Global Action provides long-term support to the following:** 



The Gurkha Welfare Trust is the leading Gurkha charity, and provides development support to build earthquake-resistant schools, clean water and sanitation systems, and offer essential medical support. The Patron of the Trust is HRH The Prince of Wales.



With Headquarters in Kathmandu, The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) serves 8 countries of the Hindu Kush Himalayas to strengthen livelihoods, and protect communities from the effects of climate change.



Practical Action provides alternative technology to poor communities in Nepal, which increases access to energy and food security, and assists in disaster risk reduction.



World Wildlife Fund (WWF) aims to reduce the adverse impacts of climate change and threats to biodiversity in Nepal; whilst promoting conservation and protecting endangered wildlife.



Kopan Buddhist Monastery houses 740 Tibetan refugee monks and nuns. Our donations at Kopan go directly to support their projects in remote mountain areas, including an orphanage, animal sanctuary, and health clinic.



We also visit the **UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office to** learn how the UK government is supporting international development in Nepal, ranging from women's empowerment, humanitarian work, work on climate change, nature and global health.

"An amazing, life-changing experience for students and staff. The most organised, beneficial educational trip you could ever experience – I have never come across a company with such an extensive programme, where you feel you are positively making change in the world. The learning that took place throughout the programme was beyond outstanding"

# Raising Funds towards your trip

You're about to embark on a life-changing trip abroad and support communities in need. Fundraising will give you a fantastic sense of achievement. Apart from raising cash for your trip, this will give you **increased self-confidence**, **and develop your life-skills in: budgeting, creativity, independence and entrepreneurship** – great for university and your careers.

At Global Action we care about your success. We provide:

- √ 1-2 fundraising workshops for you and your team.
- Regular online fundraising webinars with our partners at easyfundraising
- ✓ A 17 page fundraising guide packed with ideas, plans and resources to get you started

#### Did you know?

Most students raise £600 - £1000 towards their trip - and many even earn their whole trip cost!



Here's our five step plan to getting started:

- 1. Set a target! Are you aiming to raise the whole amount yourself, or part of this cost?
- Break down your target into milestones base this around monthly or termly targets, or think about when you can dedicate the most time to it – especially over summer holidays
- 3. Make a mind map of your network, and the different ways in which they might be able to help you and how you might be able to help them!
- 4. Put together the plan to reach your target use the Global Action Fundraising Planner from your fundraising pack.
- Pick your first event and get planning! Once you have your first contribution, reaching your target will feel much more achievable.

Your fundraising will probably be split between **individual fundraising and team fundraising** – we've included some ideas below to get you thinking...

#### **Individual**

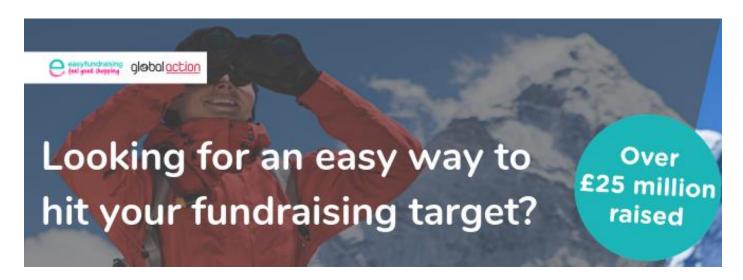
- Part-time work/Summer job
- Sponsored event
- Selling art and crafts
- Selling unwanted items
- Odd jobs in the community
- Onations from local businesses and rotary clubs

#### **Team Fundraising**

- School event film night, disco, battle of the bands
- Parents evening refreshments
- Christmas stall
- Raffle or auction of promises
- Quiz night

And, see overleaf for a great way to get free money!

99 Doing your own fundraising gives you a sense of achievement and means that whilst you are out on the trip you engage more in the activities as you paid for them yourself.
99
James, Saffron Walden High School, Zanzibar



We've partnered with the UK's leading online shopping fundraising service, easyfundraising, to give you access to an unlimited source of funding towards your trip. Every time you buy something online, from fashion to fast food, go to easyfundraising.org first to find the retailer you want. There's over 7,500 to choose from including: Amazon, eBay, Asos, Just Eat and Booking.com.

easyfundraising direct you to the retailer's website and, when you check out, you get a percentage of what you spend back as a donation to your trip - and it doesn't cost you a penny extra! It really is as easy as 1,2,3.....



#### 1. Join

Register your trip (e.g. Global Action Greece 2026 - Joe Bloggs) at: globalaction.easyfundraising.org.uk



#### 2. Shop

Visit easyfundraising.org every time you **shop online**, then shop as normal by clicking out to a retailer's site. Every time you buy something, you'll receive a donation towards your trip.



#### 3. Raise

**Encourage your friends and** family to sign up to shop in support of you too – your funds will soon mount up!

Easyfundraising run regular webinars for Global Action travellers, and you can even book a personal 10 minute call with one of their fundraising coaches to maximise your earnings – students who do this earn twice as much on average. Our record for a single month of easyfundraising earnings stands at £357 - can you beat that?

Shop with over 7,500 brands and sites including...

John Lewis





Booking.com





Sign up at:

http://global-action.easyfundraising.org.uk

# Why book with Global Action?

#### **The Specialists**

Travel with the UK's leading provider of Global Learning programmes. Global Action is managed by international development professionals, who have over 15 years' experience in organising school trips worldwide. You'll get full support, start to finish, from our experienced operations team, who have travelled to all our trip destinations. You will benefit from their first-hand knowledge and their wealth of experience from organising inspirational trips.

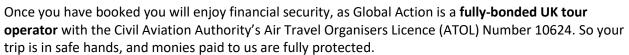
#### **High Educational Value**

Our Global Action programmes are designed to strengthen students' **employability skills** in leadership, teamwork, and communication. All students completing a Global Action trip qualify for the widely recognised **ASDAN Universities Award.** The ASDAN Universities Award is highlighted by UCAS for applicants to mention in the personal statement of their UCAS form. Students have found that the Universities Award has made a significant difference to their UCAS Application.

#### **Safety First**

On a Global Action trip, the health and safety of all our participants is our top priority. We have a full and comprehensive **Safety Management System**, including detailed risk assessments for each activity, and extensive itinerary planning with our trained in-country partners. We provide each team with highly qualified and experienced UK Global Action Leaders, supported by school staff, 24-hour safety backup, communication equipment and comprehensive First Aid Kits. Read more at: <a href="www.global-action.co.uk">www.global-action.co.uk</a>

#### **Financial Protection**







# How to apply for this trip

- 1. Complete online application: see school letter for the link to your portal page
- 2. Send deposit to Global Action (or the school) see your portal page



# Contact us

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www.global-action.co.uk