

Frequently asked questions

Students

Can I or my parents select our host family?

Yes, you can. We will give you 3 profiles of families that are the closest match to your requirements, from there you can choose which family you feel is the best match for you.

Do I stay with the same host family throughout the terms?

Yes. Where possible we try and keep you with the same family (unless you prefer to change) this way continuity is maintained and you won't have to 'get to know' a different family from scratch for every exeat and half term.

What happens if I don't get along with my host family?

If you don't get on with your family we will move you to another family for your next holiday. If you want to move part way through the homestay, we are happy to arrange this, however it might mean that you stay with a temporary family who may not live in your preferred location.

Do I get some freedom with my host family or do I have to follow their schedule and activities?

Dependant upon your age you will have to abide by certain guidelines that we implement for our families: such as times to return home. Further information on this is explained in the student handbook.

What are my responsibilities when I am staying at my host family?

We want you to relax as much as possible and treat your homestay as your home. We would ask you to be polite and courteous to all the family members. Let the host family know where you are at all times, exchange telephone numbers and ensure if you aren't coming home for dinner you let the family know in good time.

Can my parents visit me during my stay with my host family?

If your parents are in the UK and wish to visit the host family, we would be happy to arrange this. Please bear in mind that you must give adequate us notice.*

*You must give us 3 weeks so that we can make the appropriate arrangements.

Will I have my own bedroom?

Yes you will, unless you prefer to stay in a twin room with a friend. All students staying on their own for exeats or half terms will have either a single or double room for their purposes only. All homestays will have a desk and wireless internet to enable study.

What will my host family supply to me during my stay?

The host family will provide you with a welcoming environment, 3 meals a day with snacks and room of your own (unless you have asked to share). All bedrooms will have a bed, wardrobe, study desk, lamp & wireless internet. Laundry facilities & clean towels are also provided.

Why do families apply to host a student?

Families apply for a variety of reasons, some for a little extra income, some because their children have left home, some to teach (English). Whatever their reason for applying each family is carefully checked to ensure they provide a warm welcoming environment with the good facilities in a safe area.

What happens if I am scheduled to be with my host family one weekend and I have been asked to go on a trip with my school friend and their family? Is that possible?

Yes that is possible, if you require cancellation of a homestay arrangement please be aware that we have a cancellation policy which becomes payable dependent upon how far in advance of the arrangement date you cancel. Please see Terms and Conditions for further information on our cancellation policy.

What should I bring when I am going to my host family?

You will only need to bring clothes, items to wash with, a small amount of pocket money and your mobile and mobile device (laptop, tablet etc).

How will I get to my host family to and from school?

There are a number of methods to travel to your host family, the main thing to remember is unless you tell us otherwise we will ensure we arrange safe reliable transport for you either from an Academic driver, a local taxi company (known to the school) or your chosen host family.

