

Rosehill College

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Auckland, New Zealand



International Students Homestay Hosting Guidelines

Homestay is an arrangement where overseas students are given the opportunity of being accepted as a member of a New Zealand family. Please read these guidelines to help ensure you and your student have a rewarding experience.

Homestay accommodation is NOT the same as staying in a hotel or as a 'guest'. The student is expected to become a full member of your family. Here is some information that will help you avoid any misunderstanding with your student boarder.

All host families are to provide for their homestay student's room a bed, clean pillows and bed linen, storage for their clothing, a desk at which to study and a study lamp. Most importantly help and encourage your student to speak English and participate in any family activity.

Here's how our settling in process works

- We ask you to take a student who we think will suit your family.
- We send you information about the student, with confirmation of his/her arrival date.
- The day before s/he arrives we phone you to re-confirm.
- We arrange to meet the student at the airport and bring them to your home.

Everyday routine

Please make clear to your student your family routine, including bed times meal times and family activities. It can be helpful to write these down and give them to your student.

Meals and food

- Please provide nutritious meals for breakfast and dinner from Mondays-Fridays and lunch over weekends. Please give your student a packed lunch to take to school. Please provide the same meals your family usually eats.
- Please encourage your student to help with doing dishes or even preparing meals.
- Please have a supply of rice and noodles available for Asian students.

Cleaning and tidying up

- Please show your student where in the bed to sleep and how to use the electric blanket. If possible have a spare blanket within easy reach.
- Please teach the student bed making at an early stage in the student's stay.
- Please make clear that the room you provide for the student is their own responsibility to keep clean and tidy.

Shower or bath

- You may need to explain and show how your hot water system works. Tell your student the most convenient time to have a daily bath or shower for daily hygiene and the maximum time allowed to use the shower.
- Please explain our way of having a bath or shower. This includes the way to use the shower door or curtain, taps and bathmat.

Washing clothes

- Please wash your student's clothes together with your family washing unless some other agreement is made.
- Some students (especially girls) prefer to wash their own under-clothing. You could advise her where she can wash and hang the clothes to dry. Please respect any cultural sensitivity in this area.
- Please tell your student when you normally wash bedding and whether you will remove the bedding, or whether they should put it out for washing.

Wi-Fi/Internet

Our International students assume that all Rosehill college families will have Wi Fi and that they will be allowed reasonable access. There is an expectation that everyone has Wi Fi in their home – it must be easy to access and is essential to daily life.

Students are entitled to have reasonable access which means:

- Surfing the web
- Skype
- Facebook
- Email

Streaming videos, binge watching Netflix and using the video function on Skype or other similar programmes would not be regarded as reasonable usage.

Our students are advised that it is illegal to download movies and that a very large fine will apply if they ignore warnings or copy and distribute pirated material.

Access that is not reasonable to Rosehill College students

- Students should not be automatically required to pay for Wi Fi or internet access. Our homestay rates have been calculated based on each having reasonable access.
- If a student wants to stream videos or other content, it is reasonable to request an additional charge if this takes the service over the family's limit. An additional weekly fee may be appropriate. Should a student take advantage of this additional service, Rosehill College would ask that you contact us and we will take up the matter directly with the student.

When students want to go out

All international students are subject to a curfew set by the school, they must not be out after the curfew hours.

When your student goes out, please ask your student the details of their outing, i.e. where they are going, who with, contact telephone number and what time and how they will be coming home.

Students may not stay out overnight, unless approval is given from the school. Overnight stays away from the homestay may only be in another school approved homestay.

Family outings

If you invite the student to join you on a family outing or trip, it is generally expected that you will pay the student's expenses. If you expect them to pay for any aspect, please make sure that this is clear and agreed beforehand to avoid misunderstandings.

Health

International students normally have Travel and Medical Insurance policies before they leave their own country.

If the student needs to see a Doctor, please take them to your own regular Doctor, unless they prefer to see a specific Doctor. If their English language skills are poor, and a Doctor who speaks their language is available, this would be preferable. The student should pay the Doctor, keep receipts and obtain a claim form from the International Student office to claim on the insurance.

Smoking

Unless member/s of the homestay family smoke, all students are directed NOT to smoke anywhere inside the family home. If the student is a smoker we suggest that you negotiate where and when the student is able to smoke. **Please note that it is illegal for cigarettes to be sold to anyone under the age of 18 years.**

Drinking

Drinking is not allowed in a homestay situation unless the student is over the age of 20, and the family has approved it. **Please remember that it is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to be supplied with alcohol.**

Drugs

Prescription drugs are to be expected; however if a student is taking illegal substances or you suspect there may be a problem developing please contact us **IMMEDIATELY.**

Transport to school

The Host family is responsible for getting the student to school on time. The student may walk, if the homestay is close to the school. Please ensure that the student is confident of the route before they walk to school alone.

Transport may also be by car or by bus. If by bus, please help the student to learn which bus to catch, and where to get on and off, and how to purchase a ticket/AT Hop Card.

Communication

To avoid any misunderstanding please communicate often with your student. Please advise him/her of the appropriate and basic manners such as table manners and the appropriate time for them to say 'excuse me', 'please' and 'thank you'.

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