



HOST FAMILY CODE OF PRACTICE

- EIL is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all host families to share this commitment.
- Host families will have to complete an application form and annual updates to ensure EIL holds current correct information on each family.
- Before acceptance as a host family everyone over 18 living in the household, even temporarily, will be expected to have a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate.
- The local Rep and/or a member of EIL staff will conduct a home visit to check rooms are suitable for use by visitors. Long stay visitors and High School students must have a single room for their private use.
- Host families should always show due concern for the welfare, safety and security of the visitor during their stay and report any concerns to the Local Rep at the earliest opportunity.
- Host families should maintain a close liaison with EIL, the local rep and group leader, if appropriate, and so be in a position to help resolve any problems that may arise during the visit.
- EIL will provide the visitor with information on your family as well as an Emergency Contacts card.
- The visitor should be able to speak privately to the rep or EIL staff if requested.
- Upon arrival take the time to explain to the visitor your house guidelines and agree together on any basic rules which will help the placement run smoothly.
- Provide clean and comfortable accommodation for the visitor.
- Respect the visitor's different cultural background and be sensitive to their needs.
- Encourage the visitor to speak English as much as possible in your home and be ready to share your culture with them. Also appreciate that there may be times when your visitor needs to speak in his/her native language.
- Help the visitor feel at home and treat them as a member of the family rather than a lodger or paying guest.
- Provide long stay and High School students with their own room and a well-lit table or desk for their studies.

- Provide all meals for your visitor during their stay, including packed lunches if necessary, and a cooked meal at least once a day.
- Provide the visitor with a balanced and appropriate diet taking into consideration any agreed special requirements.
- Never host more than one young person of the same native language unless by special agreement in advance with both the visitor and EIL.
- Provide the visitor with laundry facilities and easy access to bathroom facilities.
- The visitor will complete an evaluation form after their stay.