

## Living in Homestay Accommodation



Living in homestay will give you a good introduction to life in the UK. Homestay accommodation is not always two parents and children: **many hosts are couples or single people with or without children.**



- \* International House will send you the name, address, telephone number and email (if available) of the homestay host before you arrive. It may be a good idea to write them a short letter or email to introduce yourself and let them know what time you expect to arrive at their home.
- \* If you change your travel plans, please let International House know **immediately** so that your host can be informed. If there is an emergency out of office hours, **please contact the International House emergency number on +447939 681 067**. If you cancel your placement **within 24 hours** of your expected arrival, you will be liable to pay a **cancellation fee** to International House (One week's accommodation fee).
- \* Homestay fees should be paid to International House – **do not pay your host directly**, as they have signed a contract to abide by International House rules.

- \* Do **not** use the telephone at any time to make outgoing calls, unless you have discussed it with your host and have an international phone card. If they agree for you to have use of the telephone, please be considerate. There are also many public phones in Newcastle, which accept cards or cash, or you may choose to use a “pay as you go” mobile telephone for the duration of your stay. You must also ask permission from your host to receive incoming calls from your parents but they must be informed to call before 22:00 hours English time. Students **must not** take out a mobile phone contract using their homestay address.
- \* If you are going to be out overnight, let the host family know so that they do not worry about you.
- \* If you are planning not to eat a meal at home, or you are going to be late for the meal, **please contact your host immediately** and in plenty of time. Your homestay host will still provide a meal for you when you return home.
- \* If you are going to join the Saturday activities with the school, **please remind your host on the Thursday before** as they will need to prepare a packed lunch for you.
- \* Do not use the kitchen or take any food or drink (apart from at breakfast time) unless you have agreed this with your host family.
- \* Your declared food likes and dislikes will be considered when your host prepares the evening meal, but please try to fit in with the usual family diet.



\* **You will be given a key to the house** for your use while you are living there. Please take good care of this and do not keep it with the address of the house. Remember to return the key when you leave. Failure to return your key will incur a charge of £10.

\* Your homestay host will provide clean bath towels and bed linen on a weekly basis

\* Find out what the arrangements are for laundry. Your homestay host can wash 1 load of your laundry per week. Your hosts will ask you to give them your laundry or to leave it in a specific place for collection and they will wash it for you. If you would like to use the washing machine, please ask how it works. Please do not expect your host to iron your clothes.

\* If you are cold, ask for extra blankets and a hot water bottle.

\* Do **not** leave lights, electric fires or heaters on when you are out.

\* Keep your room tidy and make your bed.

\* Leave the bathroom clean and tidy after using it and remember to use your own shampoo, soap, toothpaste, etc. – not products belonging your hosts or other students. Your host will provide you with a clean towel for your personal use each week.

\* Do not put pictures on the wall unless you have agreed this with your host family.



\* Internet access is at the discretion of your host. If your host gives permission for you to access the internet, please be considerate. Do **NOT** download any material from the internet. This also applies while watching videos online/using video through other software (e.g. Skype). Not all host families have internet access.

\* If you break or damage anything, tell your host family as soon as possible and offer to pay for it.

\* No offensive materials (e.g. pornographic, extremist, racist) may be brought into or accessed in the homestay. If you have or have accessed indecent materials, you will be removed immediately from the accommodation.

\* You must **not** smoke in your homestay unless your host says you can.

\* No illegal drugs may be brought into the homestay. If illegal drugs are found, the police will be contacted immediately.

If you are unhappy with something, please discuss it with your host family first. If the problem continues, **please speak to Accommodation on:**

Tel: +44 (0) 191 232 9551

Email: [info@ihnewcastle.com](mailto:info@ihnewcastle.com)

International House Newcastle, 7-15 Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4SG



Homestay is **NOT** like living in a hotel. Please remember you are a guest in your host's home and that you will be treated like a member of the family. You should treat all members of the household with respect at all times. If the above rules are broken, International House may remove you from the homestay and will not offer alternative accommodation. Our accommodation department will arrange a **maximum of 3** homestay families per student enrolment.