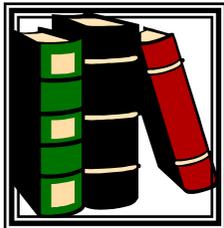




*ADVICE FOR
HOST FAMILIES*



**WELCOME TO
SOUTHPORT INTERNATIONAL**



SOUTHPORT INTERNATIONAL welcomes Host Families to hosting students from all over the world!

We established our Language Company in 1999, based in Southport, and now also have centres in Liverpool and Blackpool. We have an excellent reputation in many areas of Spain, Italy, France and most recently Russia, and in particular for the warm welcome offered by host families in the North West.

The Director of Studies is John Griffiths (Griff). He has a great deal of experience of working for language schools both in England and Abroad and prior to becoming a Director of Southport International has worked as a Course Director for other companies both in Southport and Liverpool

Dave and Karen Mitchell had previously been Family Officers in Southport and now are fellow Directors of the Company, liaising with Agents, preparing courses, processing bookings, paying host families, and overseeing the Family Co-ordination which is dealt with by the local host family co-ordinators.

Our programme includes some old favourites and some new activities, and we hope that wherever possible, our Host Families will join in with us to show our new friends what a wonderful experience living and learning in England can be. They follow a programme of English lessons every weekday morning followed by an afternoon activity such as indoor sports, mini-golf and more, or they have an afternoon excursion to places such as Chester & Manchester.

When we find a student that would fit in well with your family and your specific requests our coordinators will send you their details. Sometimes this information is not available until close to their arrival.

Our students want to improve their English and experience an English way of life.

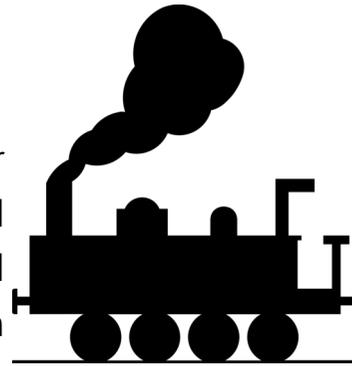
We have therefore chosen your family to provide the welcome and comfort they need. If you are an experienced family you will know how

nervous, and possibly withdrawn, a new student can be when they first arrive in your home.

If you are new to hosting then you may be more nervous than the student!

We ask you to provide a family environment exactly the same as you would expect for your own child or young relative.

Firstly, we ask you to meet your student at the arrival. This will usually be somewhere central for all the families or the main train station. The local Host family co-ordinator will contact you by text/watsapp/call.



On arrival you will receive a list of common foods translated into their own language, and a travel form for you to complete for the first time they travel home alone. You will also receive your own copy of the Programme, and a travel pass for your student, if needed

Example of the travel slip

Dear Host Family,

Please complete and give this form to your student

when you feel they are able to travel home alone.

My student can travel home by bus number.....

The bus stop in the city/town centre is on(Road)

outside.....(shop/landmark)

The journey home will take about minutes

The bus stop to get off at is.....

OR – take train atstation

And get off at.....station

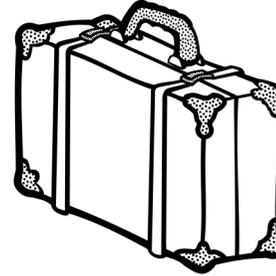
My telephone number is.....



When returning to your home show your student around, speak slowly, and explain all the things that are important to you, your family, and also your student. You may want to write some things down. If your student's English is not very good they can show your notes to their leader for interpretation. If you would like your student home at a certain time for meals, or where to put their dirty washing, or not to wear trainers in the house, or anything at all then tell them. Communication makes life easier. Put yourself in their trainers, so to speak!!

One of our Family co-ordinators, will have visited your home already, so we know it is clean and comfortable, and of a very high standard. Please remember to leave out an extra blanket. Our summers can feel like their winters sometimes!

One very important matter in particular is safety of money. The loss of money can be devastating to both students and Host Families. Rather than take all their money out with them all the time, or leave it lying around the home, encourage them to lock it away safely.



Please help your student to make contact with their own families- although almost all students will bring their own mobile phone and now have free roaming with no charges in Europe. Some groups have a special number to call.





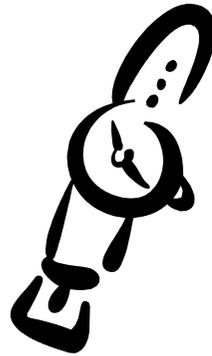
Please offer your student something to eat and drink. They may feel tired or sad, or upset by the travelling and not feel like eating just then but please try again later.

While they are staying with you your students have been told that you will provide breakfast, lunch and evening meal. Breakfast is typically cereal and toast while lunch is a “packed lunch” followed by dinner as a larger hot meal.

Lunch to many students may mean a large hot meal at 2 or 3 in the afternoon and then a light snack at 9 or 10 in the evening. Oops! Your packed lunch of sandwiches, biscuits, crisps, fruit and drink (or rolls, or cake, or) will probably be eaten at the first morning break. After all, it is a wonderful “snack”!! By 4pm they discover Macdonald’s and the routine of English meals goes completely out of the window! Don’t worry, if you are new to this experience, as within 3 to 4 days they get the hang of it and begin to be hungry for the 6pm dinner!

As you know, student should always eat with the family, never on their own.

You should provide regular access to the shower/bathroom and provide towels. Students should bring their own towel for sports etc. which you may offer to launder with other dirty washing. Let your student know the day(s) you do washing, and explain that jeans take longer than 1 day to dry in England!



Our students' lessons start promptly at 9am. The college will be on the programme but it is usually Southport College in Southport, but can be at various central venues in the Liverpool or Blackpool centres.

Please take and collect your student on the first day.

On the second day if you feel your student is confident enough, they should travel by public transport using the travel pass given to you at the arrival. Please remember to complete the advice form for your particular bus/train route that will have been given to you at the arrival.



Afternoon activities usually finish around 4, (although students only tend to return home around 5.30!), and half-day and full day trips generally return to the centre at 6pm

Sundays are usually the day to be spent with the Host Family– please tell them what your plans are . Sometimes the leaders may arrange a group activity, so please talk with your student to make plans that will suit you.



While your student is here if they become unwell they should see your family doctor. If you need help or advice please ring your Family Co-ordinator.

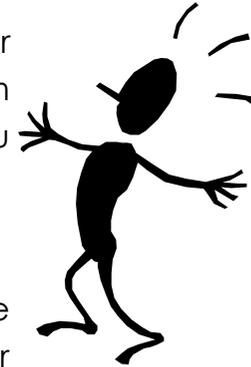
Some students are not allowed out without you in the evenings & some students have permission to go out alone, but must return home by **10.00pm**. If there is any variation to this we will let you know. If you have any problems with this then please tell our co-ordinator.

We shall arrange either 1 or 2 weekly evening activities for July, which should finish at 10 pm. Please collect young students from these events. It may also be possible for Host Families and their children to attend these events - we will let you know the details nearer the time.

Near to their departure date our co-ordinator will send a note/message to you explaining the exact time and place that your student will depart from and whether a packed lunch is required. Please take your student personally, but if you decide to send your student by taxi please make sure that you pay the driver enough.

Very Serious Bits:-

If you know of any reason that any member of your household would be prohibited from providing accommodation for children you should let us know.



Students should ask your permission before using your phone. You should make your own arrangement regarding payment - we cannot accept any responsibility for any telephone bills incurred.

You should have adequate insurance to cover your own house and contents. If an accident occurs whilst your student is still resident please advise us immediately.

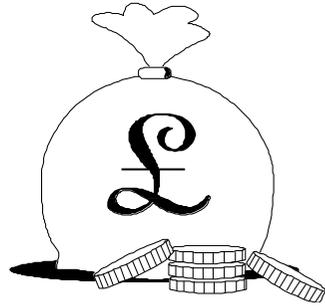
All Host Family accommodation must conform to the Gas Safety Regs. (Installation and Use) 1994 and amendment 1996

Please note that there are forms, programmes and other information on the website as soon as we have them.

All records are kept of payments made to Host Families for the Inland Revenue, should they request details.

We have a well established support system, as a Company we are available 24 hours a day for the whole of the students' stay.

Please contact your local Host Family Co-ordinator for matters regarding your student. In emergencies you may also phone the Company Office on 01704 501327.



Payments from 1.6.17 - 31.5.18 will be £15.70 per night (£109.90 per full week)

From 1.6.18 this will increase to £16.20 per night (£113.40 per full week)

Payment by bank transfer, will be transferred to your chosen Bank account on the 10th day for 28+ night stay, 7th day for 13—27 night stay, 4th day for a 7—12 night stay, and the second day for mini-trips.

If a student has to be moved for any reason then the Host Family will only be paid for the ACTUAL TIME SPENT with them. Please therefore avoid buying large amounts of food in advance as compensation cannot be paid.

We hope you enjoy the experience of Hosting and continue to do so for many years to come. With many thanks from the team-

Company Directors -

Karen Mitchell

Dave Mitchell

Griff (John Griffiths)

Family Coordinators-

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