



HOMESTAY FAMILY ARRANGEMENTS & CONDITIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

(APPLIES TO ALL STUDENTS IRRESPECTIVE OF AGE)

Homestay is an arrangement where overseas students are given the opportunity to live with, and be accepted as a member of a local New Zealand family. All homestay families are visited by the homestay co-ordinators and carefully assessed to ensure that not only is the home comfortable but also the student will be well cared for in accordance with the Ministry Code of Practice 2016 (Pastoral Care for International Students) amended 2019.

Homestay accommodation is **NOT** the same as staying in a hotel / Air BnB or as 'a guest'. You will be welcomed as a member of the family. To help you settle into life in New Zealand a little easier, do try to join in with activities which your homestay family arranges. Below is some information that will help you to avoid any misunderstanding with your homestay family.

Arrival

Your homestay family is expected to meet and greet you at the airport or pick up location.

Bedroom

Host families are to provide for their homestay student a bedroom of their own, a bed, all linen and bedding requirements, storage for clothing, a study desk and lamp. Adequate heating in cold weather such as electric blanket, extra blanket, economy heater. The student is **NOT** to purchase their own electrical appliances. ***Please note students do not pay homestay any extra money for services or facilities.***

House Key

Student will be given a ***house key/keypad code*** and he/she is to look after the key. You are required to notify the homestay immediately if you lose they key.

Meal Times

Homestay to provide nutritious meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner, seven days a week. It is expected you will join the family at meal times to eat. If for any reason you are going to be late for a meal you must advise your homestay parents in advance. Permission is to be obtained from your homestay parents if you are going to be away for a meal. Always offer help to do dishes or any other assistance your homestay parent would like during meal times.

Bathroom/Toilet

These are usually used by all family members, so please ask your homestay to advise a convenient time for you to use the bathroom. It is important you keep the bathroom clean and tidy after use. If you make a mess please clean up after yourself. There is limited hot water in New Zealand homes so please limit your shower time.

Household/Family Chores

As a homestay student you are a member of the family and should contribute to the upkeep of the family home. This could include washing dishes, setting the dinner table. **You are responsible for keeping your own bedroom clean and tidy and making your own bed every morning.** Your homestay parent will check your room on a regular basis to ensure it is being kept to reasonable standard.

Washing Clothes and Bedding

Your homestay will discuss with you, your expectations for washing clothes and linen. Some homestays will prefer to do the laundry for you, however, others will require you to be responsible for washing your own. Bedding should be washed on a regular basis.

Internet

All homestays are to provide Wi-Fi internet. This is for students to do their homework and contact parents overseas. Most homes have unlimited internet. You are discouraged from spending large amounts of time watching own-language movies or playing online games as these are counter-productive to your English language development and school success. The homestay family may monitor late night internet use and control appropriately.

Household Rules

As a member of your homestay family we expect you to live by the rules of the household.

Going Out and Curfew Times

You are expected to communicate and ask permission from your homestay parents if you are going out or will be late home. Your homestay family must know where you are at all times. Give your homestay parents your mobile number and have their mobile numbers in your phone so you can communicate at all times. Note the following curfew times are guidelines only and should be discussed with your homestay family.

Age	Sunday-Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Under 15 years	6.00 pm	Under supervision	Under supervision
15-16years	6.00 pm	10.00 pm	11.00 pm
16-18 years	6.00 pm	12.00 midnight	12.00 midnight
Over 18 years	Negotiable	Negotiable- To be agreed by caregiver	Negotiable- To be agreed by caregiver

Supervision and Keeping Safe

Students, regardless of age are not permitted to stay in the home overnight on their own without an approved caregiver.

You are expected to communicate and ask permission from your homestay parents if you are going out or will be late home, it is important they know where you are going, and what time you are expecting to be home.

If you plan to stay overnight at a friend's/relatives or family friend's home you need to contact the International Department for permission. This process usually takes time as school will have to communicate with your homestay family and your parents. You will also need to ask permission from your homestay family and provide them with the contact name and telephone number of the family you are staying with. Students may not stay overnight at a venue where there is no adult supervision.

Transport to School

Transport to school may be by walking, bus or car. Please ask your homestay to assist you to familiarise with the route to school if you are unsure.

Student Insurance

All International students will have Travel and Medical Insurance policies before they leave their own country. If you become sick, please ask your homestay to take you to a doctor. Doctors and other medical bills must be paid by you, receipts kept and a claim form obtained from the International Department to claim on the insurance.

Family Outings

If you are invited by your homestay family on an outing or trip, please agree beforehand who will pay for any expenses incurred on the outing to avoid any misunderstandings.

Smoking/Drinking/Drugs

Smoking, drinking alcohol and taking drugs are not permitted regardless of age.

Motor Vehicles/Driving

Macleans College does not allow International Students to own or drive a car while they are enrolled at the College.

Money

Students are required to have their own money for out of pocket expenses e.g. transport, extra school activities, personal items.

Attendance at school

You are expected to attend school every school day unless you are unwell. You are expected to be on time for all school activities. If you are unwell and cannot attend school, your homestay is to inform school on the day of absence by emailing your form teacher or phone 09 535 2620. Your homestay parent will write an absence note to bring to the form teacher. If your homestay thinks the absence is unjustified they do not have to report. Refer <https://www.macleans.school.nz/report-absence>

Dealing with Problems

Please discuss any problems you may encounter in homestay with one of our Homestay Co-ordinators or email us at homestay@macleans.school.nz Often problems arise with homestay families because they don't understand how you feel about certain things, so please talk about these.

Moving Homestay

Students who want to move to a new homestay must see the Homestay Co-ordinators at the International Department who will assist you with the correct process. No student is permitted to move without prior permission from the school. This is applicable to both school accredited homestay or your self-arranged homestay. Moving homestay will incur an administration fee.

Overnight, Weekend and Holiday Travel Plans

If you are going away for the weekend or overnight, you **must apply for permission ten school days before**. See the International Department.

We encourage you to enjoy and explore New Zealand when you are here. It is also our responsibility to ensure you do this in a safe manner. The International department has a lot of approved tour agencies (for high school students) and also flyers for weekend trips. Come check it out with your friends.

You will need to fill out a travel application form to get permission to travel and you will be advised of the process for different situations.

DO NOT pay for any flight/ticket or other travel arrangements before school gives you permission.

Contacting School

- School Website: www.macleans.school.nz
- During school hours – contact Macleans College 09 535 2620
- Urgent matters: 24/7 Emergency Phone number 027 420 3917 and leave a clear message, including your name and contact phone number
- Alternatively: homestay@macleans.school.nz