

# Becoming a Language Room Host Family INFORMATION PACK

**PLEASE NOTE: COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF THIS PAGE, FILLING IN YOUR DETAILS AND RETURN TO THE LANGUAGE ROOM**

Please note: Enhanced Police Disclosure checks may be required

Dear Host Family,

## HOST FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES – THE CHILDREN ACT 1989 (PART IX)

I am writing to you all in connection with The Children Act 1989 (Part IX) and the implications for hosting young foreign students.

Host families accommodating children under school leaving age (16 years) now have legal responsibilities under the Children Act 1989 (Part IX).

The law concerned is to provide a necessary element of protection for children who are potentially at their most vulnerable away from their families. This vulnerability can be even greater when the child is from abroad and has only limited ability to communicate in English.

The following are NOT allowed to host children:-

- a) Anyone who has had a child removed from their care by order of a court
- b) Anyone who has been convicted of an offence against a child
- c) Anyone whose parental rights over a child have been taken over by a local authority
- d) Anyone who has had an order made against him/her refusing or cancelling registration under the Nurseries and Child Minder ACT 1948 or the Children Act 1989 (Part IX)

**If any of the conditions apply to you, your spouse, partner, any other member of your household or visitor to your home, you must make it known to us immediately that you will be unable to host our students.**

For this reason, I am obliged to ask you to sign the declaration below, before accepting to host any of our students. These checks, which have to be made, are no reflection on you but are a safeguard for foreign children whose care we are entrusted with. We are sure you wouldn't want anything less for your own child, or a child close to you, who was going to stay with strangers.

**Thank you for your co-operation and prompt return of the declaration below.**

**Please complete and return the WHOLE sheet (including completed form overleaf>>)**

I .....(Name in capitals) of ..

.....

.....

..... (Full address and post code) ...

**declare that no person in my household is restricted from hosting children under the terms in (a),(b),(c) or (d) above or any other provisions of the Children Act 1989 (Part IX) known to me.**

**Signed .....** **Date.....**

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## HOMESTAY CODE OF PRACTICE

**We agree to abide by English UK's Homestay Code of Practice for providers of  
homestay accommodation for students from abroad:**

- To encourage the student to speak English as much as possible in your home
- To encourage the student to feel at home and to treat him/her as a member of the family rather than a paying guest
- Not to host another student of the same native language at the same time unless by special arrangement with the students and the schools/centres
- To provide a clean and comfortable student room, meeting the requirements laid down by the British Council
- To provide a home environment in which it is possible for the student to carry on his/her English Studies properly
- To provide the student with a balanced and appropriate diet
- To show due concern for the welfare, safety and security of the student during his/her stay
- To give the student reasonable and regular access to bathroom and laundry facilities
- To maintain a close liaison with the student's school/centre and so be in a position to help resolve any problems that the student may encounter during his/her stay
- To respect the student's different cultural background and be sensitive to the needs of the student

**Please complete and return the WHOLE sheet** (including completed form overleaf>>)

**Signed:**

.....

**Date:**

.....

**(Name in CAPITALS) of**

.....

.....

**(Full address)**

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