

Homestay

Would you like to know more about
hosting an international student?



Homestay – International Students

Macleod College is a highly regarded school of choice for overseas families looking to provide their children with a study abroad experience in Australia, with new students arriving every term. While we attract international students of all ages into our community, the majority of students tend to arrive in time to commence their secondary studies before staying on until they complete their VCE studies.

Upon arrival, our international students live with either a family member or friend and sometimes they are placed in homestay arrangements that are managed and supported by the school.

When looking for a suitable homestay family for our international students we ask ourselves whether the potential homestay provider has:

- A furnished spare bedroom which has all the necessities for a teenager (bed, study space, wardrobe space, storage space and of course Wifi access)?
- A welcoming and caring potential home away from home and a desire to include the student in the family's commitments and social calendar?
- A willingness to encourage the student to immerse themselves in Australian culture and the English language, creating networks to enhance the student's experience?
- The capacity to act as a parent might, by monitoring course progress, attendance, wellbeing and attending meetings such as Parent Teacher Interviews?
- A valid Working With Children Check for all over 18's living in the house?

Families who are able to provide the complete package are offered a weekly fee of approximately \$330, with students personal expenses excluded.

After we have found a potential homestay provider we aim to match them with a student who is most suited to them, based on personal preferences, extracurricular interests and family composition.

Do you think you might like to provide homestay accommodation to one of our international students? For a little while? For the longer term?

Please contact our International Student Coordinator, Colleen Cochrane, for more information Colleen.Cochrane@education.vic.gov.au or phone 9459 0222.

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Being a homestay family has proven to have many benefits for my family. It allows us to build a meaningful & hopefully a lifelong relationship with the student who lives with us.

These relationships then provide each of us with a range of personal advantages that we may not otherwise have built during our life, such as:

- *We are able to exchange & learn about the home and customs of each other and thus enhance our personal cultural awareness on an international level.*
 - *It allows us to view our home, family and country through the eyes of our homestay student and thus better appreciate how lucky we are to live in such a wonderful country.*
 - *By sharing our home with others we learn about ourselves & build qualities such as patience, tolerance & empathy for others.*
 - *We open up the world to possible reciprocal travel.*
- We would never regret opening our home and our hearts to a homestay student.*



Leanne Bullas
Current Homestay Provider