

Welcome to our Homestay



Welcome to Melbourne, Australia! We hope you enjoy your stay.

Below are a set of homestay guidelines which will help to create a happy home for everyone.

Study as a priority



You have been granted a student visa and are here to study and learn. We are here to support you with that. Please put study before outings with friends or spending time online gaming or socialising. Homestay families will help you in any way they can as you are a part of their home. Please respect their study and work lives as they will respect yours.

You will be expected to attend school every day, on time, unless you need to visit a doctor, in which case you will need to provide a medical certificate from a doctor to explain any absences to Colleen Cochrane upon return to classes.

Homestay hosts must send an sms or call Colleen Cochrane on 0425 749 344 before 9:00am to explain any late arrivals or absences from class

Key to the house



We will provide you with your own house key when you arrive. If you lose the key you will need to pay for new a key. Please return the key before you move out.

When leaving the house, please ensure that you:

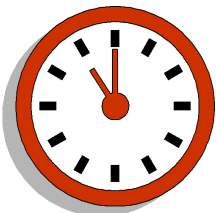
- Turn off lights, fans, heating, laptops etc at the wall or power board switch in your room.
- Lock the outside door and close any open windows.
- Do not give keys to anybody else and do not make copies.

Your room



We ask you to please:

- Keep your room clean and tidy.
- Do not cook, or keep food in your room (certain 'snacks' are allowed, if kept in reasonable containers – speak to your host).
- Do not leave any wet clothing or towels in your room.
- Do not stick anything to the walls. If you wish to hang anything, see your host.



Noise

We don't mind you playing music or chatting with your friends via mobile or internet. We simply ask that you are not too noisy, particularly late at night. Please try to complete these conversations by 10pm. You will need a good night's sleep in order to study well.



Lights, fans & heating

- Please make sure you turn off all lights and heating / cooling in your room when you go to sleep or are out of the room.
- If you are too cold, please let hosts know to organise extra blankets.



Internet

- Internet access is available for you to use while in the home.
- Please avoid excessive downloading as there may be several people in the home wanting to use the internet at any given time.



Meals

Let your hosts know what you would prefer to eat for meals and discuss arrangements for who does the preparation and cooking.

Students are expected to eat meals prepared by the homestay family, if they choose to eat alternative meals they should pay for them with their own money.

If a student would prefer to purchase their own meals, they should inform their homestay host so they are not wasting food.

When you use the kitchen please make sure you leave the kitchen clean and tidy.

Any ongoing concerns about food provision should be discussed with the school so that expectations can be clarified, and a resolution can be found.

Breakfast

Breakfast is provided in the home before students leave for school.

Lunch

A packed lunch will be provided for students to take to school each day.

Dinner

Families generally try to organise dinner for about 6:00pm - 7:00pm. Please let your hosts know by 4.00pm if you will not be home for dinner or will be late.

We expect students to sit and eat with the family without the distraction of phones / digital technology, this is so that this time can be used for conversation and relationship building.



Cleaning

We do not expect you to clean anything while you are here, except a few basics:

- Help with tidying up after meals.
- Keep your own room clean and tidy.
- If you make a mess anywhere, please clean it up.
- Help the homestay family as the need might arise
- Please ask about appropriate placement of rubbish to allow for recycling



Laundry

Either your laundry will be done for you or your host will show you how to do your own laundry. Please take all dirty clothes to the laundry as instructed by your host.



Showers and Water Usage

In Melbourne, water conservation is very seriously. Therefore, please keep your showers to 1 per day for a maximum of 5 minutes duration.

We ask that you please use water carefully and do not waste water.

Also, please:

- Supply your own toiletries & tissues
- Leave your wet towels on the space provided in your bedroom or bathroom so they can dry. Towels will be replaced with clean ones regularly.
- If you make a mess, please clean it up.
- Complete your shower and bathroom use by 9:00pm.



Going Out

If you go out with friends after school or on weekends you should find your own way home either by public transport or by taxi.

Prior to going out plans must be discussed with and approved by your host. We suggest you always travel with friends, especially in the evening!

Students are expected to eat dinner and sleep at their homestay residence every night. Only pre-approved sleepovers at other homes are permitted.

** All students should follow the curfew times that are stated in their individual homestay agreement. Curfew times are set by the school and based on student age and knowledge of Melbourne.



Friends

You may have friends visit in the homestay or you can visit with your friends at their home. Just let the homestay know beforehand so that arrangements can be made.

At least 1 days' notice would be ideal.



Smoking

If you are under 18 years of age it is illegal to smoke in Australia.

*Some homestay hosts request that no student, no matter how old they are, smoke on their property and this request must be respected