

# Homestay North



## London

*Living in a homestay in London is a new and wonderful experience. Students will have the unique opportunity to share the day to day life of the homestay providers as well as all the diversity of British culture. EC staff members are available at all times to help students adjust to life in a new environment, and to serve as a liaison between them and their homestay provider.*



### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- General English course - 20 lessons per week (1 lesson = 45 minutes)
- Full board accommodation
- End of course certificate
- Supervised activity programme (per week)
  - 5 half-day activities and 4 evening activities
  - 1 full-day trip (for students staying 2 weeks minimum)
- Transport to and from all activities
- Welcome pack

### TRAVEL TIME FROM AIRPORT

**Gatwick:** approx. 1 hr 30 min

**Heathrow:** approx. 1 hr 15 min

**Luton:** approx. 35 min

**St Pancras International Station:**  
approx. 45 min

### ARRIVAL DAY

Saturday

### DEPARTURE DAY

Saturday

### MINIMUM COURSE DURATION

1 week

### DATES AVAILABLE

09 July - 20 August, 2016

### AGES

13 - 17 years

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

+44 (0)7823411344 (For use outside of office hours only)

### GETTING TO SCHOOL & ACTIVITIES

- A member of the homestay will take students to/from school daily, this could either be by public transport or the family's private car. The average journey to school is 20-25 min by bus, car or on foot, but this varies depending on the location of the homestay. The maximum travel time is 40 minutes by bus.
- Activities take students into the city centre where they can experience the cultural National History Museum, shopping in Oxford Street, Piccadilly Circus, Westminster and more! A full day excursion on Saturdays and sports sessions during the week keep students busy every day! Travel pass for activities is included.

## Accommodation

### BOARD STATUS

Full board

### BATHROOMS

Shared bathroom

### TYPE OF ROOM

Twin room - students are placed in a twin room with other students of the same gender.

### LINEN/TOWELS

Bed linen is provided. Students should bring their own towels. Linen and towels will be cleaned once a week by the homestay provider.

### WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE ACCOMMODATION

- Students will be provided with access to living areas during acceptable hours.
- All students will have access to a phone and will be allowed to accept incoming calls. If students want to make phone calls they must use a calling card. Calling cards can be found in many local stores.
- International Leaders are accommodated in twin rooms shared with another International Leader. If International Leaders request a single room, a single room supplement will be charged at the time of booking and reserved based on availability.

### WIFI

Wifi is not guaranteed. Most families provide Wi-Fi/cable connection, or a dongle if the connection is down. Please see family profile for more information.

### ROOMS INCLUDE

- Storage space
- Desk/table where students can do their homework (if not in the room, a place for studying will be provided in a common area)

### CLEANING

Bedrooms and bathrooms will be cleaned once a week by the homestay provider.

With advanced notice EC can accommodate special requests. E.g. non-smoking family, no pets, allergies, special dietary requirements etc. Students should bear in mind that this may not always be possible.

Valid reasons must accompany a request for a homestay change, and each request is considered on its own merits. Such changes are also subject to availability. Students must pay for all costs incurred including transport, additional accommodation charges and cancellation fees (where applicable). The additional charges must be paid in full prior to the move. EC is happy to assist students with arrangements for any justifiable accommodation changes.

### LAUNDRY

Laundry facilities will be provided by the family once a week.

## Meals

### BREAKFAST

Students receive a continental breakfast at their host family.

### LUNCH

On school days, students have lunch at the school cafeteria. Students will be given lunch by their homestay providers on the weekend. Packed lunch will be provided on the weekend when students go on a trip.

### MEDICAL

At this time of booking EC must be advised of any medical conditions, allergies or medications that need to be taken by the students. EC will endeavour to find a homestay provider that can accept students with medical conditions. However if we are not advised of this in advance, EC cannot take responsibility if the homestay provider refuses to accept the student in their home.

Students must have adequate health, accident and travel insurance while attending any of our programmes which must be acquired prior to their arrival.

European students travelling with a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) are entitled to free public healthcare. All other students are required to pay approximately £60 to see a doctor, which students must pay at the time of their visit.

### DINNER

Students have dinner at school when there are evening activities (Mon/Tue/Wed/Fri), and they have dinner provided by their homestay on other nights (Thu/Sat/Sun).

### DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

If students have specific diet requirements (e.g. Gluten free / vegetarian / Halal), EC must be informed of this prior to the student's arrival.

*Please note:* For gluten-free meals a supplement may apply.



## Learning Centre

### School Address

St Margaret's School  
Merry Hill Road  
Bushey  
WD23 1DS

Lessons take place at St Margaret's School, a beautiful campus providing excellent facilities in London travel zone 8, just outside of the hustle of central London, yet just 20 minutes by train into the city centre. Apart from excellent classrooms, facilities at school include a beautiful school hall and great sports facilities such as football pitches and a swimming pool (use of the swimming pool is subject to availability). Sports activities take place on campus and evening activities take place on campus or very nearby.

### Course: General English

20 lessons per week (a total of 15 hours)

1 lesson = 45 minutes

- Our dedicated and professional teaching staff provide feedback and support and help students build confidence to speak English.
- The course will help improve English language skills by focusing on the key areas: reading, writing, speaking and listening. A strong focus is placed on speech and using the language confidently and fluently.
- Lessons are engaging and designed especially for young learners. Teachers aim to satisfy any interest, with a focus on communication to boost students' confidence when using English in practical situations. Regular tests and conversations classes help to ensure that students improve their English as much as possible.
- If the school is busy, EC will utilise a Double Banking timetable. Put simply, students attend morning sessions of classes one week, the next week they attend afternoon sessions.

### MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE

15 students

### EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Students should bring their own notepaper and pens

### FIRST DAY

On the first day, all students sit for a placement test, allowing academic staff to place students in the relevant group for their ability. In the afternoon students will be given an Orientation tour.

Students will receive a Welcome Pack, containing general information about their programme. This will be given to students at their homestay.

Any student unable to attend their first day on Sunday should arrive at the learning centre on Monday by 08:30.

- 08:45-09:00 Welcome talk
- 09:00-10:30 Placement test
- 10:45-12:15 Lessons
- 14:30 Orientation tour
- 19:30 Join fellow students for film night



## PHONE

There is a phone in the school office, and all students will have access to it.

## ATTENDANCE

All students must attend school on a daily basis unless they are genuinely indisposed (due to illness, for example). In the case of a student falling ill an EC member of staff will accompany the student to a doctor or A&E.

## SUPERVISION

Students will be supervised by EC staff at all times. There is at least one leader for 15 students. Students will be accompanied by their homestay providers to and from school.



# **Welfare, Rules and Disciplinary Action**

## **CURFEW TIMES**

- Ages 13-15: 10pm
- Ages 16-17: 11pm

## **ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION**

Any EC student on the Junior Programme caught consuming alcohol during their stay risks being expelled from the school and repatriated to their home country. No alcohol consumption is permitted during the programme regardless of age.

## **DRUGS**

The consumption of any illegal drugs will result in the immediate expulsion and repatriation of the student and the possible intervention of the police.

## **CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS**

At EC, we endeavour to provide our students with the highest possible level of service. If, however, a student is dissatisfied with any aspect of their programme with EC, we ask that they inform us immediately. Most problems are small and can be quickly resolved by our staff members. During the first week of school, all students are given an Initial Course Evaluation form, in which they are asked to evaluate various aspects of their stay, such as tuition, accommodation and leisure. The form also allows students the opportunity to bring to our attention anything that is not to their satisfaction should they feel unable to speak to us directly. Solutions to any issues will be provided and all necessary parties will be notified when applicable. Students are also requested to complete an End of Course Evaluation form at the end of their stay such that they have the opportunity to provide EC with general feedback before returning to their home country.

## **EXPULSION**

EC reserves the right to expel and repatriate a student at his/her own expense for any of the following reasons:

- Possession of any illegal drugs
- Drinking or bringing alcohol on to any EC premises
- Malicious damage to school property or place of accommodation
- If the student is a danger to his/her own safety or that of other students
- Breaking English law
- Repeated failure to attend academic lessons and/or social activities
- Bullying, racism, sexual harassment, violence

In any of the above circumstances the student is informed that their stay is going to be terminated with immediate effect. Simultaneously EC informs the student's agent of the student's behaviour and the course of action to be taken. The earliest flight available is booked at the student's expense and an EC staff member accompanies the student to the airport to ensure that the student leaves the country. Following such action EC will terminate all relationships with the student and will be unable to take further responsibility for the student. No refunds will be given to any students who have been expelled.

## **Course Certificate**

Students must attend all lessons and organised activities in order to receive their End of Course Certificate. The certificate will be given out on the last day of the course.

## **Discipline**

In order to manage student behaviour, EC staff may issue a formal warning, notify parents, ban students from an activity or withhold the End of Course certificate, if the student misbehaves.

## **SMOKING**

Smoking is NOT allowed at any time during the programme.

## **ACCOMMODATION RULES**

- Students must keep their room neat and tidy, including making their own bed every morning
- Curfew times must be respected by all students - if students know they are coming home late they should let their homestay provider know
- Students should ask their homestay provider before using their kitchen
- Students are liable for any damages/breakages to the homestay provider's property or possessions
- Students must ask for the homestay provider's permission before bringing any guests home
- Students must make sure that they do not lose the house key (if they are given a key), and never lend it to anyone
- Students must ask if they may use the telephone and pay immediately if they do, for any calls they make immediately
- Smoking is NOT allowed at any time