

INTENSIVE **E**NGLISH **L**ANGUAGE **I**NSTITUTE
ADELAIDE ♦ SOUTH AUSTRALIA



IELI Student Code of Ethics Policy

General Information

IELI recognises that homestay students may come from a variety of cultural backgrounds and that these will not be the basis for acceptance or rejection in the homestay group.

IELI homestay students must recognise that IELI homestay families also come from a variety of cultural backgrounds and these are not the basis for acceptance or rejection in the homestay provider group. Therefore requests for a particular background cannot be met under IELI regulations.

The IELI homestay service is available to newly arrived IELI students only. Any request for homestay or for a change of homestay, will be at the discretion of the Homestay Coordinator, or for any extraordinary circumstances within the homestay. Once a student has moved from homestay to independent living, IELI is not able to provide the homestay placement service to that student again.

It is expected that if a student leaves IELI or completes their studies that they will move out of the IELI provided homestay.

IELI homestay students must understand that homestay accommodation is a challenging cross cultural experience and students will need to make adjustments and compromises as part of that experience.

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Code of Ethics (Students)

- Participate in the homestay program with the primary motivation of sharing their daily lives with a local family for the purpose of cultural exchange.
- Uphold the values of safety, respect, fairness, and good communication which are at the heart of the IELI homestay program in all dealings with participants within the program.
- Follow the accepted code of behaviour within the homestay, including respect for all family members.
- Communicate in an honest and respectful way and develop positive relationships with the homestay family. (When a student doesn't talk about a problem, it often gets worse.)
- Recognise that families in Australia may offer a difference level of "service" than families in their home culture and accept this as a common cultural difference.
- Take responsibility for their own behaviour and needs.
- Use a problem-solving approach to any difficulties in the homestay program, (It is important to know that few families want anyone to be unhappy.)
- Provide emergency contact details and agree to reporting requirements of the IELI critical incident policy.

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Expectations and Responsibilities (Student)

The students will be expected to comply with the following:

- Make the best effort to understand and fit into the family's established routine and expectations.
- Ask questions and discuss any part of the rules of routine which cause difficulty for the student.
- Behave appropriately and be prepared to participate in family activities.
- Respect and be aware that cultural differences and beliefs of the homestay provider may differ from their own.
- Communicate with the homestay provider on a day to day basis. (Students should be open about their needs/wants, such as more food for lunch, permission to make a phone call late in the night (after 10pm), or additional blankets in cold weather.)
- Use only English in front of the homestay family, even when friends from the students same language background are present.
- Advise staff immediately of any concerns of their health or welfare in the homestay environment.
- Follow rules for living in the family's house, such as no smoking, no alcohol, spending no longer than 5 minutes in the shower and leaving the bathroom tidy.
- Offer to help with minor household chores such as occasional washing up and keeping their bedroom clean and tidy.
- Be considerate and avoid loud noise after 8:30pm.
- Ask the family before inviting friends over.
- Advise the homestay family about social activities and when they will be home for meals.

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- Provide the host family with their mobile number, contact details of their friends, and other information which will make it easier to locate the student if he/she goes missing.
- Adhere to the guidelines set down in the "Homestay Information Booklet", web, orientation for students and other advice given about the homestay program.
- Follow the laws of Australia, for example, wearing bicycle helmets, respecting the legal age of drinking, etc.
- Take care of the family's home and belongings and to report any damage to the family as soon as possible.
- Pay for any damage to family property (if the student is responsible for the damage).
- Pay all required homestay fees to the family on time. (If the homestay fee is more than 5 days late the homestay family is duty bound to inform IELI.)
- Meet all personal expenses for travel, entertainment, telephone calls, medical expenses and other personal, incidental costs.
- Keep all valuables, money, passport and airline tickets in a safe place.
- Attend an orientation with homestay staff when required.
- Inform IELI when the student leaves the homestay.