



HOMESTAY PARENT GUIDE

Welcome! As a homestay family, you are taking part in a unique and wonderful experience.

PREPARING FOR YOUR STUDENT

- Please provide a good light to study.
- If the bedroom is in the basement the student might need a space heater.

Post a welcome letter in their room with the following information:

- General House Schedule and Recommendations.
- Meal Times
- General House Schedule and Recommendations.
- Laundry Arrangements
- Tap water is ok to drink
- Picture of your family with the names of the family members
- Telephone use after hours
- Internet Password
- Banking
- Bus schedule and information on how to take the bus

****Please show your student how to get to school the first day****

ARRIVAL

- Your student may have jet lag, feel a bit homesick and could even be regretful to come. Don't feel bad if they want to spend time in their room and are not very talkative the first few days.
- Ask them if they want to call home collect.
- Just until your student is comfortable, we recommend treating them like a house guest.
- Please offer them snacks and drinks as they will be shy to help themselves.
- The key to making a homestay situation work is through communication.
- If you have question or need help with an issue, please call the Homestay Coordinator as soon as possible.

GETTING SETTLED

- Once your student is settled, please included them in some family activities. For example: set the table, empty the dishwasher, take the dog for a walk, or watch you make dinner.
- Your student will enjoy telling you about their family. Ask them if they have any pictures or stories to tell. Some students love the opportunity to cook a meal to introduce you to their culture.
- If you invite your student to go out to a movie or bowling etc. it can be very awkward when it is time to pay. The best advice is to tell them right up front whether they will be paying for themselves. For example, "we are going bowling on Saturday; it costs \$10.00 to play, would you like to come with us?" or "would you like to come out for dinner on Saturday, it is our treat?"

SCHOOL ADDRESS & OFFICE HOURS

School office hours are from **8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

516 Brookmere Avenue, Coquitlam, V3J 1W9

Telephone 604-939-6633

www.coquitlamcollege.com

HOMESTAY PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Eve Eckford – Homestay Coordinator

Telephone 604-939-6633 local 249

homestay@coquitlamcollege.com

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00-4:00pm

Melita O’Neill – Summer Program Coordinator

Telephone 604-939-6633 local 229

melita@coquitlamcollege.com

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 am-4:00 pm

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- School hours call 911 & then contact the school. (604) 939 6633
- Evening and Weekend Emergency Number Melita O’Neill (604) 785 6765

SAFETY CONCERNS

- Make sure your student has your contact information with them.
- Please write down your student’s name and their parents name and contact information.
- Clearly mark or explain the evacuation routes in your home.
- Make sure they know where the fire extinguisher is and how to use it.
- Please show them how and when to call 911.
- Inform your student of the safety issues. For example; Walking at night or meeting new friends on the internet.
- If they have a medical emergency, please take them to the hospital or call 911.

IF YOU HAVE ANY SAFETY CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR STUDENT PLEASE CONTACT THE HOMESTAY COORDINATOR ASAP at (604) 939 6633

HOMESTAY PAYMENT

- The student is responsible to pay the homestay fee directly to you upon moving in, or as soon as they have their bank account set up.

The current Homestay rate is **\$1100** per month (three meals a day)

The daily rate for this program is **\$37.00**

- Holiday Rate is **\$20/day and a holiday** is considered two weeks or more where the student is absent from the home.
- Summer program rate is **\$60/day**

The summer program takes place every July and August for 2-4 weeks. Homestay families are required to provide the students with three meals per day and drive them to and from school Monday to Friday.

MOVING OUT OF HOMESTAY

- The first month is a trial period.
- Students must give two weeks notice to their homestay family if they want to move out and can give notice at any time throughout the month. Students may have to pay a penalty at the daily rate if the notice given is not two weeks.

OTHER

Damage Deposit Please do not ask for a damage deposit.

Extra Charges Please do not charge students for items such as soap, toilet paper, laundry detergent or any other common household necessities.

Custodianship

All international students under 19 years of age that are traveling to BC to study without a parent or legal guardian will require a custodian. A homestay family that agrees to host a student under 19 years of age may be asked to sign a custodianship form. The custodianship form states they have a minor in their care, they will do their very best to advise the student of any safety concerns and agree to contact the school if there are any concerns regarding the student.

Appliances Please show your student how to use the household appliances, include the washer and dryer. Let them know if there is a schedule for washing clothes.

Telephone Please explain how to call collect and help your student with an international calling card. The College cannot be responsible for long distance charges.

Pets Most students don't have pets and are not accustomed to being around pets, especially inside the home. Students may be uncomfortable when a dog or cat jumps up. Please allow them time to adjust.

Ethnic Food

Upon arrival, new foods and the time change can be a shock to the system. There are many grocery stores in the Coquitlam area that cater to the needs of many cultures. Please keep in mind it is of great comfort to eat familiar food.

Thank you for becoming a host family with Coquitlam College