

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS HOST FAMILIES

What is expected of the students while they are with their host family?

Host students should be treated as a family member and the expectation is that you will look after them as you would your own son/daughter.

Host students must comply with reasonable house rules, curfews etc.

They should help with basic household tasks as required by host parents (bed-making, dishes, tidying up after themselves etc.)

The host family should know where they are at all times.

Encourage them to participate in family activities and outings as much as possible, although it is reasonable for them to go out occasionally with other friends or on their own if it is safe for them to do so (shopping, gym, library, school events...)

They should try not to conduct prolonged conversations in French when English speakers are present.

Students may take time off school to do sightseeing if accompanied by an adult, as long as the school is notified.

They may take part in school trips (e.g. camps, Biology field trips).

Students may not undertake independent travel around the country.

They may not participate in high risk activities (e.g. bungee jumping, rafting) unless parental permission is obtained first.

They may not take days off school without a reasonable excuse. In the event of short term sickness, notify the school as you would for your own child.

Abuse of alcohol and drugs is strictly forbidden.

What is expected of the students while they are at school?

The students are expected to conform to the school rules. If uniform is required it must be worn correctly. Otherwise tidy dress is expected.

They should try their best in their classes, within their capability, and meet the standard of behaviour required by the class teacher. Schools and teachers will vary as to their expectations around homework and tests, but encourage your Swiss student to complete homework and participate in class as much as they are able to.

The student should be encouraged to mix with New Zealanders and not congregate solely with other French speakers. They should speak English most of the time.

In some cases students may have to be sent home. Possible reasons include:

- Illegal use of drugs.
- Alcohol abuse.
- Serious and continued non-compliance with family or school rules.
- Regular absence from school without excuse.
- Breaking the law of the host country (e.g. stealing)
- Serious health problem (e.g. eating disorder)

What should you do if there are problems?

If a problem arises, first talk to the student on her/his own.

Talk to your child's French teacher. They may be able to help you resolve issues, especially if it is the result of a cultural/linguistic misunderstanding.

If the problem is not resolved, contact us. We will try and resolve issues arising and liaise with the Swiss organisation as needed.