



Living in an SGI homestay!

Living in a homestay is a great way to learn all about London life; it reflects the amazing cultural diversity of our city and gives you the opportunity to practise your English in a natural environment. Many homestays are what students might consider a “traditional family” whereas other homestays may consist of a retired couple, a single mother or young couples without children.

Here are some rules and guidelines to help you enjoy your stay with a St George International (SGI) homestay.

1/ Informing homestays of your arrival time:

Students must telephone or email their homestay at least one week before arrival, if students don't do this, their homestay may not be at home to greet them when they arrive!

2/Living in an SGI Homestay:

When staying in a homestay, students should try to fit in with the everyday life of the household and remember that they are not staying in a hotel. Students are expected to keep their room tidy and to show consideration towards their homestay family and respect meal times.

If students will not be at home for dinner (and they booked HB), or are staying out later in the evening than normal, it is important that they inform the homestay.

3/ Laundry:

Homestays will generally do a reasonable amount of washing for their students and/or allow them to use their washing machine, although arrangements may vary depending on the homestay.

Students should always ask before using any electronic equipment belonging to the homestay.

4/ Dietary requirements:

Most homestays know in advance if there is any specific diet, but if the student hasn't made it clear during the booking phase please let the homestay know on arrival. Please advise the school in advance of any special dietary needs.

5/ Pets:

Many British homestays have pets, particularly cats and dogs. Please respect them and do not feed them unless you have the permission of the homestay.

6/ Smoking:

Smoking is strictly forbidden in all homestays. Please always ask the homestay family if there is a specific area where it would be permitted to smoke, for example the garden.

7/Money:

Although the homestay accommodation will of course be a safe and secure environment, it is still important to keep you money safe. If you have any money difficulty it is important that you speak to the school not the homestay.

Enjoy your time with your SGI homestay! 😊