

Placement Policy

Introduction

International House Manchester recognises that a student's accommodation is central to them having a positive and productive language learning experience. To facilitate this, we offer homestay placements for our language students, providing them with safe and comfortable housing as well as an authentic English-speaking environment outside of the classroom. This policy outlines the procedures and guidelines for placing language students in host homestays.

Policy Objectives

- Provide language students with a comfortable and supportive living environment, where they feel welcomed, cared for, and encouraged during their studies.
- To ensure the safety, security, and well-being of our language students during their homestay experience by placing them in safe and reputable host families who comply with safety standards and regulations.
- Tailor homestay placements to meet the individual needs, preferences, and requirements of our students, considering factors such as dietary restrictions, allergies, special needs, and personal interests.
- Ensure compliance with relevant laws, regulations, and ethical standards governing homestay placements, promoting transparency, fairness, and accountability in all aspects of the program's implementation and operation.

Placement Procedure

IH Manchester chooses hosts in line with its recruitment policy and selects hosts for each student applicant as part of the booking process. Placements are based on factors such as stated preferences, compatibility and host availability.

- During enrolment, adult students are asked if they require homestay accommodation. Under 18s are required to stay with a host (please see below for exceptions).
- The school collects information from interested students regarding their dietary restrictions, allergies, and any special requirements or requests.
- The school will match students with host families based on compatibility, considering preferences and specific requirements of both the hosts and the student or student care giver
- Once a student has been allocated, the host family receives a confirmation letter via email. The confirmation letter contains relevant details regarding the student such as contact details, fees and length of stay
- The student receives a host welcome letter in good time prior to the start of their course. The welcome letter contains relevant details regarding the host such as contact details, home address, facilities and transport routes
- We do not accept a booking that requires homestay placement until we are confident that a suitable host available for the student.

Reviewed September 2023– Next review September 2024 or in the event of staffing, policy, or legislative changes

- Amendments to homestay allocations can be made by request from the student/agent prior to arrival in the UK. The school endeavours to meet these requests given sufficient notice and reasoning.

Same Language Speaking Students

As stated above, in the interest of promoting an immersive experience IH Manchester as a matter of policy does not place speakers of the same language with the same host. However, there are certain circumstances in which speakers of the same language may be placed together. For example, by request of the students involved.

All parties have the living circumstances clearly explained before the booking is confirmed and payment made. They provide explicit consent and agreement with the terms of the placement.

Under 18 Students

This section of the policy outlines specific provisions and procedures related to the placement and supervision of under-18 students specifically in homestay arrangements in addition to standard considerations detailed above.

- Host families for under 18 students are recruited in line with our Recruitment and Safeguarding policies.
- Consideration is given to the gender balance between multiple students in one homestay.
- Under 18 students may be more likely to be placed with speakers of the same language in the same host family for pastoral reasons and caregiver requests.
- In homestays accepting more than one student, under-18 students are generally placed with other under-18s. Exceptions are:
 - When a student turns 18 during their course and is living with an under-18
 - When an under-18 student is living with a direct relative or with an adult nominated by a parent/guardian.

Termination of Homestay Placement

- In cases where the homestay arrangement is no longer suitable or conducive to the student's well-being or learning experience, alternative accommodation options will be explored.
- Termination of the homestay placement may occur if either the student or the host family breaches school policy or exhibits behaviour deemed unacceptable.

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