

Life with an English host family

We do our very best to choose a homestay for you where you will be really happy. However, if you have any problems at all, please talk to our Accommodation Manager who will deal with your problem as quickly as possible.

Here are a few points to help you get accustomed to life with an English family:

1. Heating

It is normal for the heating system to be timed to come on twice a day – for about 3 or 4 hours in the mornings and 4 or 5 hours in the evenings. The heating is normally switched off during the night. If you need extra blankets during the night, then please ask your family to provide them.

2. Electricity

Please make sure that you turn off all lights (and electric heaters) when you leave your room as electricity is expensive in England.

3. Food

You'll probably find the food quite different from what you're used to. Please let your family know if there is anything that you don't like or can't eat. Also the time of the evening meal may be earlier than you're used to – between 17:30 and 19:00. If you are not going to have your evening meal at home on any particular day, please let your family know in the morning or the day before.

4. Telephone

Please note that local calls are **not** free and the cost of the call depends on the time of day it is made; for example, it is cheaper to call after 18.00. If you need to make a local call, please ask your homestay's permission first. Pay phones are also available on the street. Please ask Reception or your homestay for the nearest one.

Please make sure that your family and friends in your country know the time difference and ask them not to phone you early in the morning (before 08:00am) or late at night (after 22:00)

5. Friends

Please ask your homestay's permission before you invite a friend to visit and ask them where it is convenient for you to sit with them.

6. House Key

Please make sure that you keep your house key safe. If you lose it, you may have to pay for a replacement and possibly to have the locks changed too for security reasons.

7. Late Nights

If you return home late at night, please be as quiet as possible so as not to disturb anybody. Remember, your host family might need to be up early too!

8. Notice

If you wish to leave your homestay to move into your own accommodation, you must inform the Accommodation Office at least ONE WEEK before you leave, otherwise you will have to pay the following week's accommodation.