



Welcome to your Westlake homestay family.

To have an enjoyable time with your homestay family, please follow those simple guidelines:

Please be polite and friendly, accept homestay family's household rules and any requests they make. Please try to be an active member of your homestay family.

Bedroom:

- Keep your room clean and tidy at all times.
- Do not eat and leave organic rubbish in the room. This could attract ants and other insects.
- Save energy! When you go out please turn off all appliances in your room.
- Before you get into your bed please ensure you have turned your heater off and also the electric blanket off on your bed (if you have one!)
- Never go to school or out and leave your heater or electric blanket on. **This could cause a fire, so please take care.**
- Before you leave the house, ensure you have locked the house door and always close windows you have opened.

Bathroom:

- Please turn on the fan before your shower and limit your shower to 5-7 minutes.
- Always leave the bathroom clean – just as you found it.
- Do not flush sanitary pads down the toilet, wrap them up and dispose in the rubbish bin.

Mealtimes:

- Please eat your meals with the rest of the family or if you are late for a meal please eat this at the table.
- Do not take meals to your room.
- If you are not going to be home for a meal please ensure you advise your homestay family in good time, so they do not make your meal and waste food.

Friends

- Your friends will be welcome in the house to visit you but, out of courtesy, you should seek permission from your host family before you invite friends home.
- You should remember that one of the main reasons that you are studying in New Zealand is for you to learn to speak English. If you are living with an English speaking family, it is polite to speak English when you are in the family areas of the house. Please remember this if you have friends visiting.

Illness

- If you are unwell and are not able to attend school you should always ensure your homestay family are aware. You should not be leaving the home unless you are going to a doctor's appointment and your homestay knows about this. Your homestay should then write you a note for the following day for you to give to your form teacher. You must not write your own note!

Going out!

- If you are going out with your friends please ask permission from your homestay parents before you go out, tell them who you are going to be with and when you will be at home.
- **You are not permitted to stay out overnight regardless of your age, without permission from your homestay parents.**
- It is your responsibility to ensure your mobile phone is fully charged before you leave the house.
- Your host family should have your mobile number and you must ensure that you keep it switched on when you are away from home.
- If you are going to be late (*and this should not happen very often!*) you must urgently let your homestay family know so that they do not worry about you.
- Please understand that if you are late home and you have not made contact with your host family then they may contact the Westlake Girls Emergency Number to advise us that you are not home. Should this happen your parents will be informed and the police could also be contacted to help find you.
- **You must be contactable at all times!!**

Travel and Activities during School Holidays and Weekends

- **You are not permitted to travel around or out of New Zealand unsupervised at any time during your period of study with Westlake Girls High School, unless you are flying directly home to your own country. Your host family should be aware of any school trips you are participating in.**

Remember you do not live in a hotel but in a family – help with dishes, help to keep the kitchen clean, ask your homestay parents how you can help. They will appreciate this! We hope you have an enjoyable stay with your homestay family.