

## PROMISCUITY

Promiscuity will terminate the Programme for the student leading to immediate return home.

## FINANCES

The Host Family is not under any obligation to provide the student with pocket money or to finance clothing, school uniforms, travel or other expenses (including telephone calls). Pocket money will be provided each month by the Host Club, whilst the other costs are to be borne by the student from his/her own funds or those provided by the student's natural parents.

Some students are poor at budgeting and need guidance in this respect if they are to live within their finances. Students should be discouraged from borrowing money and from purchasing on the Host Parents' credit accounts.

The Programme requires the student to bring A\$500.00 to be placed in an Emergency Fund. The Fund is not for day to day minor items, but is for major expenditure such as clothing, medical and dental accounts, travel, tours etc. Withdrawals from the Fund should require the signatures of both the Counsellor and the student, thus preventing impulse buying. The Fund must be replenished without delay by the student's natural parents. Host Parents should discuss this matter with the Counsellor at the beginning of the hosting.

## STUDENT INSURANCE

It is mandatory for all students to have suitable and adequate insurance cover for the entire year covering the following risks :

- ▶ Personal accident injury and/or death
- ▶ Funeral expenses
- ▶ Travel
- ▶ Loss of personal belongings
- ▶ Personal liability
- ▶ Medical expenses
- ▶ Hospitalisation

Most sponsor countries require an exchange student to purchase that country's own local insurance and

consequently, the student will arrive fully covered by insurance. The Host Club must check the adequacy of the insurance, and if considered to be inadequate, should contact the Host District Youth Exchange Committee to arrange additional cover. If the student has selected an Australian policy, the cover must be in effect PRIOR to the student's departure from his/her home country.

## MEDICAL INSURANCE

The Australian Government requires all hosted students to have basic insurance for medical and hospital expenditure. The insurance must be with Medibank Private under their "Overseas Student Health Cover". The policy will be effected PRIOR to the student's arrival since the issues of the Student Visa by the Australian Government are dependent upon the premium having been paid. Further cover may be added (again through Medibank Private) should the Club consider such action desirable. **The hosted student is expressly excluded from cover under the MEDICARE national health care scheme.**

## TRAVEL

Host Parents are under no obligation to take the student on holidays or provide tours. Where the Host Family is to be away and cannot take the student, they should advise the Counsellor well in advance of the event and the Counsellor should make alternative accommodation arrangements for the student covering the Host Family's absence.

However, most students do manage to see a lot of their host country due to the generosity of their Host Parents, their Rotary Clubs and individual Rotarians. Where this occurs, it is an added advantage to the exchange, not an entitlement.

Where the Host Club and District permit travel, the student must abide by the rules and regulations laid down as a condition for such travel, it is normal requirement for written approval to be sought from :

- a. The student's natural parents
- b. The Host Club
- c. The Host Parents

- d. The Host District Chairperson
- e. School Principal, if absence from school is contemplated.

A copy of the travel itinerary (including contact addresses and telephone numbers) must be lodged with the District Chairperson.

Unaccompanied travel (even with other exchange students) outside the normal community area is not encouraged and is even strictly forbidden by the District.

Under NO circumstances may a student make travel arrangements of one's own and then expect the Host Parents, Club or District to go along with the arrangements.

Most Rotary Districts sponsor student exchange tours, the cost of which normally is the student's responsibility.

## **SCHOOLING**

The rules of the Youth Exchange Programme require the student to attend a secondary school. The Host Counsellor should attend to the enrolment details and, in conjunction with the student, organise a subject package.

The Host Counsellor is the continuing contact between the school and the Host Student. The Host Parent's role is to supervise the day-to-day attendance of the student at school and to encourage him/her to participate fully in both the academic and extracurricular activities of the school. It is important that any problems arising from language difficulties be dealt with promptly. The Host Parents explaining any absence of the student from classes should always provide a note to the school.

## **HOMESICKNESS**

Every student will experience homesickness to some degree. Host Parents should appreciate this fact and expect the student to have some adjustment problems. At this time a student may want privacy to cope with his/her feelings, so do not be alarmed if some time is spent alone in his/her room. Encourage the

student to be open about homesickness and to be confident to discuss the problem when it arises.

If the student spends a lot of time alone, this could be a danger sign that he/she is not adjusting well to the new environment. In an attempt to solve this problem it is wise for the Host Parents to discuss the matter with the Counsellor and the student. Encourage the student to be involved with youth groups and other community activities, as this will help alleviate adjustment problems.

## **CHANGE OF HOST FAMILIES**

Through the Counsellor, Host Families should keep in touch with the Rotary Club regarding hosting arrangements, so that all parties are aware of and know well in advance exactly when each change of home is to take place. It is recommended that the current Host Family meets with the next Host Family to discuss the student's likes and dislikes, thus assisting with a smooth transfer from one home to the next.

## **TELEPHONE CALLS**

Abuse of the telephone by the student can lead to conflict with the family. Upon moving into the Host home, the parents, should discuss telephone requirements with the student and establish operating rules. The cost of telephone calls should be borne by the student.

## **SHARED KNOWLEDGE**

Exchange of knowledge on an international level is one of the main objects of the Youth Exchange Programme. The Host student is an ambassador for his/her country. However, the Host Family also is an ambassador - for Australia. The Host should show interest in the student's country and learn as much as possible about that country. At the same time, the Host Family should also impart knowledge about Australia and it's way of life, thus enabling the student to take back home a good understanding of Australia.