

# Host Family Expression of Interest

Rotary Youth Exchanges are made possible through Rotarian, student, and other families voluntarily opening their home to be a host family for an overseas exchange student during the term of the exchange. Host families are not reimbursed or paid for their efforts but have an opportunity to gain in many other ways whilst supporting Rotary

Rotary welcomes your interest in hosting a secondary school exchange student. This is a unique opportunity for your family to experience first-hand the richness and diversity of a different culture. Students are expected to become participating members of the host family. They are required to attend a local secondary school arranged by Rotary. At times there will be some commitments to attend their host Rotary Club and other Rotary activities.

As exchanges are reciprocal so as to select a local student to participate in the program we require families to host an inbound student. The student's exchange is always during their home school year. Because of this variation from the Australian school year the inbound exchange commences from late July or early August. The total hosting period to be covered is typically around 48 weeks. The hosting period is for a period of 12 to 16 weeks and is flexible both in duration and timing to be mutually agreeable to those host families involved for each student.

The host family and often the extended family plays an integral role in offering the student the experience of a new culture and language, whilst at the same time learning itself about a different culture from the student.

## What type of families are typical hosts for exchange students?

The answer to this question is all types.

- Families do not need to be affiliated with Rotary to host Rotary Exchange Students.
- Families with small children make great host families because young children get the experience of having a big brother or sister and the exchange students often enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of practicing their language skills with a younger child.
- Families with high school age children are ideal because host brothers and sisters can quickly get the student involved in school and community activities.
- Retired couples are good too because they can have more time to spend with their student than younger parents do and they often enjoy having a young person around the house.
- A single parent host family with a child in the family also can make a great host family

These families will be then be interviewed for suitability and must be approved by Rotary and must satisfy all legislative requirements of working with children legislation, personal referees and Rotary International policy.

### What makes hosting a Rotary Exchange Student a good choice?

Rotary insists that students have a good academic standard, some spoken English as well as an ability to act as an ambassador for Rotary, themselves and their national country. All students will receive an orientation program, which prepares them for their year of exchange both prior to departure and after arrival. This training is provided in areas of public speaking, understanding cultural differences, getting on with people, etc.

### Will you have access to support?

The Rotary support network of Clubs, Student Counsellors and the District Youth Exchange Committee provide close contact and a team support structure second to none in student exchange programs. Each participating Club is your first contact and subsequent follow up for the many aspects of the program.

### What do you do now?

If you think that your family would be interested in assisting Rotary by volunteering to be a host family for a flexible period of twelve to sixteen weeks and at a mutually agreeable time or times please complete Page 2. Rotary will contact you to further discuss this offer and use these details as the basis for an approval interview.

If you know of any other possible host families include their contact details on this page for consideration by Rotary if required and submit with your expression of interest.

	Name of Family	Post Code	Contact Phone	Contact Email
1				
2				
3				
4				



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## This nomination form is a fillable format - type directly into the text fields

Rotary Youth Exchange invites kind and caring Host Families within the community to assist local Rotary Clubs offer an outstanding exchange program to young people from all over the World. If you would like to be nominated for consideration Rotary now needs to gather some more information and then to interview you and discuss the program so as everyone understands the requirements and the significance of your generous offer.

#### 1. Family Information

Name of Father			Name of Mother				
Home Address - Street			Home Address - Street				
City or Suburb or Town Post Co			City or Suburb or Town	Post Code			
Home Phone	Mobile Phone		Home Phone Mobile Phone				
Email Address			Email Address				
Occupation			Occupation				

Children's Name	M/F	Age	Living at home Y/N	School attending

Do you have a preferre	ed hosting p	period? (Yes/No)		We can	receive a	boy or girl?	(Yes/No)
August – October		November – January		Воу		Girl	
February – April		April - July		No Preference			
No preferred period							

Briefly indicate your main reasons for wishing to participate in the Rotary youth exchange program.

Describe any other hosting experiences you have had, if any.

Signature of parent/s	Father		Mother	Date
Return to;	Rotary District 9810 Youth Exchange P.O. Box 61, HEALESVILLE 3777 Phone: 0408 388 489	<u>OR</u>	sign and scan all pages and stuhoo2000@yahoo.com.au	