

Fire

As part of the contract with them, the Language school/Organisation will ask that you do a fire risk assessment to ensure that your property is safe. You are advised to consult the fire service for advice with this. Things to consider include: smoke & carbon monoxide alarms; extinguishers/blankets; escape routes, etc.

Gas Appliances

All gas appliances should be covered by a current Gas Safe inspection certificate. This can be obtained from a registered engineer. No gas appliances should be used without having a current certificate. Details are available from www.gassaferegister.co.uk This is renewable on a yearly basis subject to meeting legal standards.

Damage

Language schools/Organisations are not legally liable for damage caused by their students. The student would normally be legally liable and the hosts can attempt to recover any costs. This does not include general wear and tear. Any willful damage should be reported to the language school/organisation and also to the police, to obtain an incident number for the insurance company.

Further Information can be found at:

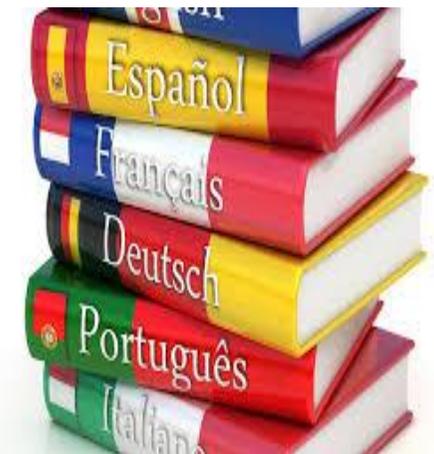
- www.britishcouncil.org
- Regional Accredited Language Schools Association (RALSA): www.ralsa.org.uk



Are you thinking of becoming a host family/ homestay provider for a young person?

Do you currently host a young person?

**Language School/Organisations
Host Family/Homestay Provider
Information Leaflet.**



LSCB in conjunction with RALSA

A list of accredited schools can be found at www.britishcouncil.org

Introduction

Hosting foreign students can be an enriching experience for you and your family. You may choose to host all year round, or for just a few weeks a year. It can also be financially rewarding, helping to pay for a holiday or other extras.

Some language schools/organisations are accredited and inspected, others are not.

As a homestay host family, there are certain legal rights and responsibilities in relation to the care of the young person living with you, whether you host for an accredited or non-accredited school.

As part of your duty of care, you must do your best to ensure that the young person and the accommodation are safe.

To protect you and the young person, we recommend that you host a young person for an accredited school/organisation.

Safeguarding /Care of under 18's

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and is essential to avoid any possibility of children or young people being put at unnecessary risk.

If you are hosting young people, Language schools/Organisations must ask for a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. (criminal record check).

They have a legal right and obligation to do this. The DBS certificate is sent to the applicant (i.e. host), and is then shared with the language school/organisations.

More information can be found on the official Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service>

Contracts between Organisations and Hosts

Each school will have a different contract with their hosts that cover many things e.g. when and how payment is made, cancellation policies etc. It is advisable to have a signed written contract which clearly sets out the conditions agreed between both parties. Accredited schools have these. We advise that you check the terms of any written contract very carefully.

Safeguarding Training

Language schools/Organisations should provide safeguarding training for hosts. You should also receive the details of who to contact at the Language school/Organisation if you have any concerns. Training is often as an 'on-line' course

How many students can you host?

Accredited schools can place a maximum of 4 students with you, providing there is adequate space for them.

Young people staying for more than 28 days

Any young person under 16, staying in your home for more than 28 days must be registered

with the Local Authority (LA) 'Private Fostering Team'. **It is a legal requirement to notify the Local Authority about this.** The LA Private Fostering team will carry out further family checks. If you are not registered as a Private Fosterer, please contact the Private Fostering department.

Bournemouth T: 01202 454971

E: private.fostering@bournemouth.gov.uk

Poole T: 01202 714711 / 735046

E: childreferrals@poole.gov.uk

Discrimination

You should not publicise any preferences, however due to your living arrangements, you may prefer to host students of a particular gender, race, ethnic origin or nationality. Language schools/Organisations will make it clear to all hosts who express preferences, that this may limit the number of possible placements.

Size of Rooms

The room size should be of an adequate size for the number of students using it. There should be natural light, standard size beds (not camp beds or inflatable beds), a desk, chair, lamp and storage, as a minimum.

Insurance

Hosts are advised to inform their insurance company that they are letting rooms to ensure that they are appropriately covered. It is very important that you have appropriate and adequate cover and have carried out risk assessments. (I.e. in case of fire etc.)

Risk Assessments

Hosts are obliged to make sure that the premises are safe for the young person living with them. Any risks should be assessed and actions taken to minimise them. If this is not done, then the host would be liable in case of an accident or injury.