



Rangitoto College

Great Opportunities, Great Students



International Students

Homestay Guidelines Handbook

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*Create
memories
that will stay
with you for
a lifetime!*

Welcome from the Rangitoto International Team

We welcome you as an International Student to Rangitoto College. Reading through this booklet with your own family before you come to New Zealand will answer many questions you may have.

There is no "typical" host family—our hosts come in all shapes and sizes, including married couples, single parents, working professionals, retirees, and families with or without children. What they all share is a genuine passion for cultural exchange and a commitment to providing a safe, nurturing home.

For your peace of mind, our International Department thoroughly interviews every family, conducts police background checks, and visits each home. Because many have been with us for years, they are trusted members of our community.

It's important to remember that a homestay is completely different from staying in a hotel or an Airbnb. You will be welcomed as a true member of the household, which means you also share the responsibility of making the experience a success.

Adjusting to a new country—with its unique housing styles, food, customs, and daily routines—takes time for both you and your hosts. Feeling homesick or finding things unfamiliar at first is a perfectly natural part of the journey.

Whenever you need guidance or just a friendly chat, our school support team is always here for you. Ultimately, living with a host family is the absolute best way to immerse yourself in our culture and naturally fast-track your language skills.



Quick Facts



Excellence

Ranked Internationally among
Global Colleges



4200+

Students enrolled from 60+ countries



Nationalities

Over 70 Nationalities at
Rangitoto College



220+

International Students



Sports Available

40+ Sports Codes Available



Arts & Cultural Groups

75+ Co-Curricular Performing Arts Groups
along side 70+ Student Lead Interest Clubs,
Service Groups & Cultural Societies

International Department Staff

The international office is open to students from 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday, including school holidays. We are here to help you if you have any questions or issues.



Lynda Lidgard
Director of International Students

Lynda leads the International Team at Rangitoto College, focusing on global marketing, agent relationships, and student wellbeing to ensure every international student is supported and successful. Lynda is also your acting guardian whilst you are at Rangitoto College studying.

Email: lynda@rangiworl.co.nz



Victoria Craven
Student Services Coordinator

Victoria provides frontline support and onboarding for international students, manages Ministry of Education data compliance, coordinates the senior Term 4 Alternative Programme, and manages the international website and social media.

Email: admin@rangiworl.co.nz



Vanesa Pearce
International Manager

Vanesa manages student applications, accommodation quality, and global marketing, working closely with educational agents to ensure a seamless enrolment process for prospective families.

Email: int.manager@rangiworl.co.nz



Chantal Burnie
International Finance Officer

Chantal handles international enrolment finances—including Offers of Place, invoicing, and receipts—and manages student insurance policies and claims to ensure complete coverage, pathway letters.

Email: finance@rangiworl.co.nz

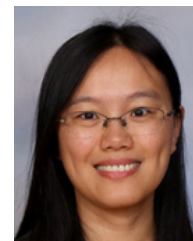
Accommodation Coordinators



Anna Leech
Accommodation Coordinator

Anna manages host family placements to provide a supportive home environment, monitors student wellbeing through regular interviews, and assists students with safely booking approved New Zealand trips and tours.

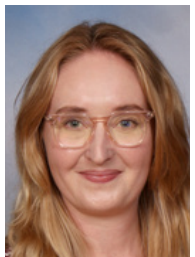
Email: accommodation@rangiworl.co.nz



Ivy Lin
Chinese First Language Support

Ivy offers native-language guidance, interviews, and translation support for Chinese students and their families to keep them connected and supported at Rangitoto College.

Email: chinese.support@rangiworl.co.nz



Victoria Hitchens
Accommodation Coordinator

Victoria manages host family placements to provide a supportive home environment, monitors student wellbeing through regular interviews, and assists students with safely booking approved New Zealand trips and tours.

Email: accommodation@rangiworl.co.nz



Leah Kim
Korean First Language Support

Leah offers native-language guidance, interviews, and translation support for Korean students and their families to keep them connected and supported at Rangitoto College.

Email: korean.support@rangiworl.co.nz

Teaching Staff



Raewyn Nutsford
International Dean - Yrs 12 & 13

Raewyn is responsible for all timetable, subject or attendance queries for all international students in years 12 & 13.

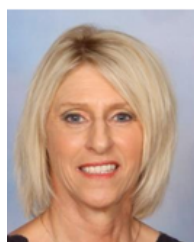
Email: Raewyn.Nutsford@rangitoto.school.nz



Ye Sul Kim
International Dean - Yrs 9 -11

Ye Sul is responsible for all timetable, subject or attendance queries for all international students in years 9, 10 & 11.

Email: YeSul.kim@rangitoto.school.nz



Julie Strang
Deputy Principal

Julie is responsible for any disciplinary issues relating to behaviour and attendance.

Email: Julie.Strang@rangitoto.school.nz

We are here to help you:

Phone: (09) 477 0150

Email: admin@rangiworl.co.nz

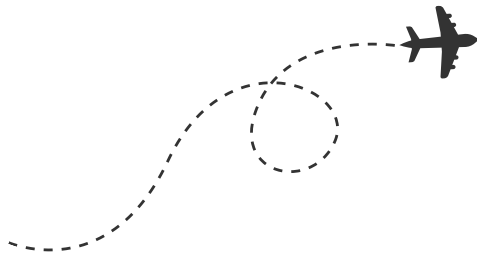
Homestay Email: accommodation@rangiworl.co.nz

Emergency /After hours: 0800 563 263

Police: 111 (Police/Fire/Ambulance)

564 East Coast Road, Mairangi Bay, Auckland 0630, New Zealand

www.rangitoto.school.nz



Flight Information

You should have received the airport pick up details by now. If you haven't, please contact Rangitoto College International Department with the following information:

- Flight Arrival Date
- Arrival Time
- Flight Number

Once you receive your homestay details, we highly recommend reaching out to your host family via email or a message to say a quick hello! Sending a friendly message is a fantastic way to introduce yourself, share a bit about your hobbies, and get to know them before your exchange officially starts. You can even send a photo of yourself, your family, or your hometown. Breaking the ice early will help you feel much more comfortable.

We completely understand that traveling on your own can take a lot out of you. To keep things stress-free, we will arrange a shuttle driver who will pick you up at the airport and take you directly to your homestay family. Please also send a quick text or message to your host family as soon as your flight lands so they know you have safely arrived. After you get settled, please remember to message or call your loved ones back home right away to reassure them that you've arrived safely in New Zealand.

What is a Homestay?

Your homestay experience means living with a New Zealand family who will embrace you as one of their own children.

You can look forward to a warm, hospitable environment where all your basic needs are covered—including daily meals, bedding supplied, washing facilities.

A big part of the experience is simply being involved in the family's day-to-day life.

Upon arrival, your hosts will show you around the house. Take this opportunity to ask a few initial questions so you can feel confident about the household routines right from the start.

*Check out the
handy hints
in this booklet
to help you
ask questions
to your
homestay*

What is a Designated Caregiver (DCG)?

Your DCG experience means living with a relative or close family friend of your family that you have known for a while. This is a private arrangement between your family and the DCG directly.

The DCG is required to provide 3 meals a day as well as laundry facilities and a warm welcoming environment for you to be part of their family. Your parents pay the DCG rather than Rangitoto College. A DCG has to be approved by the school and visited just like a normal homestay family. If you have any problems in your DCG you can talk to the accommodation department but it is really the responsibility of your parents to help.

Handy Hints:

- It is your responsibility to keep your room tidy at all times.
- Please **do not** eat in the bedroom or leave dirty dishes there as it can attract flies and ants.
- To keep your bathroom tidy and smelling fresh, please remember to hang up your towel as soon as you are finished using it.
- Some families also like you to hang up the shared bath mat over the side of the bath or on a rail after your shower so the floor can dry.
- Don't be embarrassed to talk to your host about washing - most have hosted before and are used to these questions
- Don't spend all your time in your room. Make sure you interact with the host family every day
- NZ families don't typically have cleaners or maids and therefore the family members share duties to keep the house clean and tidy.

Your Room

Your room will have:

- a comfy bed with all the bedding supplied
- a wardrobe where you can put your clothes
- a heater
- a desk to study at.

These are requirements for all homestay bedrooms.

Your bedroom is your own private space, just like everyone else's bedroom in the house are their own private areas.

You cannot go into their rooms unless you are invited. Your host family will explain this to you in more detail when they are showing you around the house after your have arrived.



How do I keep warm at night?

Unlike many other countries, most New Zealand homes do not have central heating. Instead, houses are usually warmed by a fireplace or a heat pump in the main living area. If you feel cold in your room, please don't hesitate to tell your host family! They will be happy to help, often by providing extra blankets or other warming options. If you are given a heater, you need to keep this on a low temperature, and when you go out of the room, keep the door closed to keep the heat in. Electricity is very expensive in New Zealand. Remember to unplug/turn off your heater when you leave the house! It can take some time to acclimatise to the New Zealand temperature, so always let your hosts know if you need a bit of extra warmth.

Laundry and Washing

When you arrive, be sure to ask your host family how they manage the laundry. They will likely give you a basket or bag for your dirty clothes, and in most homes, bed sheets and towels are changed weekly or fortnightly.

Please note that New Zealanders typically line-dry their clothes outside, so you might be asked to hang out your own washing. To prevent dampness and mold, it is very important that you never hang wet laundry inside your bedroom, over heaters, or in your wardrobe. If you are unsure of what to do, just ask your host parents!

Bathroom

New Zealand bathrooms might be quite different from what you are used to back home. Most do not have a drain in the floor, so it is very important to keep the floor dry. When you arrive, chat with your host family about how their shower or bath works.

Please also be mindful of your shower time. Electricity is expensive in New Zealand, and most homes have a limited hot water tank. If you take too long, the hot water will run out for the rest of the family! A 10-minute shower is plenty of time. Lastly, remember that you are responsible for buying your own personal toiletries, such as shampoo, conditioner, and toothpaste.

Food, Meal Times and Cooking

Most New Zealanders (Kiwis) eat “international” food and international food supplies are available in our supermarkets and stores.

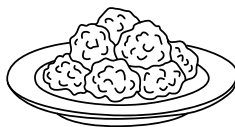
Your homestay fee includes all meals:



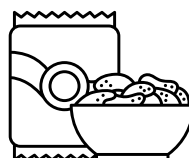
Breakfast



Lunch



Dinner



Some Snacks

Food is a big part of settling in! A great way to start is by heading to the supermarket with your host parents to point out some of the foods you love to eat.

In New Zealand, the main meal of the day is usually dinner in the evening, so it's important to eat a hearty breakfast before heading to school each morning. On weekends, lunches and dinners tend to be much more casual and relaxed.

If you ever have any worries about food and feel nervous talking to your host family about it, please come and chat with our Accommodation Coordinators. We are always here to help!

Mealtimes

Please tell your homestay family if you are still hungry!!

Breakfast - In most Kiwi homes, breakfast is a relaxed, self-service meal. You'll usually help yourself to toast, cereal, or fruit. Most families do not make a hot, cooked breakfast during the school week.

Lunch - New Zealand students usually bring a "packed lunch" to school. This often includes sandwiches, fruit, muesli bars, biscuits, or chips. If you prefer to buy your food, Rangitoto College has two student canteens that sell a range of snacks and hot meals.

Dinner - Dinner is a special time! Most Kiwi families sit down together at the dining table between 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm to catch up and talk about their day. At Rangitoto College, we expect you to be home for dinner so you can connect with your host family. If you aren't going to be home for dinner, you must let your homestay know that morning, or well before their usual cooking time. If you are running late, always send your host family a text message to let them know you are safe and where you are.

Cooking

If you love to cook, just ask your host family! They would absolutely love to try dishes from your home country. Cooking a favourite meal from home is a fantastic way to share your culture and say a delicious "thank you" to your host family.

Your host family will do their very best to cook meals they think you'll enjoy. However, if there is something you really can't eat due to a dislike, allergy, or dietary restriction, just let them know nicely. They want you to be happy and full! Always remember to say a kind "thank you"—host parents love to know their hard work in the kitchen is appreciated.



Handy Hints:

- Most families try hard to cook food that you like. If you can't eat something please do tell your host family.
- Don't be afraid to try new foods as you might find that you do like them.
- Offer to help with preparing or tidying up after a meal.
- You can set the table, prepare vegetables, clear the table or stack the dishwasher.
- In New Zealand families, the whole family helps with dinner chores - you are part of the family so you should offer to help too.
- Remember, if you use/take the last of a food item, let your homestay family know so that they can replace it.

At dinner time, you can talk about:

- Your day at school
- Your host family's day at work or school
- Your homework
- News from home
- Current events
- What you got up to over the weekend, and your plans for the upcoming weekend

Driving and Travel

Driving / Travelling in a Car

You are NOT allowed to drive or own a motor vehicle or motorbike whilst you are enrolled as an international student at Rangitoto College.

Travelling outside of Auckland in a car with other teenagers for day trips is strictly NOT allowed. If you want to go on a day trip you must be with a responsible adult who has held their full license for more than 2 years.

It is compulsory anytime you are travelling in a car in New Zealand that you MUST wear a safety belt. This applies if you are in the front or back seats of any motor vehicle.

If you ride a bicycle to school, in New Zealand, you MUST wear a safety helmet. This is the law and you can be stopped and given a fine if you do not have one on. If you plan to ride a scooter (or e scooter), we recommend you also wear a helmet for your own safety even though it is not compulsory.

Always lock your bike or scooter at all times when you are not using it as they can get stolen.

School Travel Policy

Whilst you are an international student you will not be allowed to go on any unsupervised overnight excursions/trips. Permission for supervised travel must be given by the international accommodation team for any overnight trips unless organised by the school or host family. You will need to get the travel permission form signed off by your natural parents for any overnight trips.

There are numerous tour companies that provide amazing tours over the school holidays and in the weekends that you may want to go on. Some of these companies are as follows:

- The Student Tours (www.thestudenttours.co.nz)
- Students on Tour (www.studentsontour.co.nz)
- NZ Educational Tours (www.nzet.co.nz)
- Aotearoa Surf (www.aotearoasurf.co.nz)

To see the full list check out our International website [here](#)

Overnight Stays with another Rangitoto College Homestay Family

You are allowed to have sleepovers with other international students who are staying at a homestay family of Rangitoto College

- Your homestay needs to call the other homestay family to discuss it is ok with them
- You can ask your homestay to drop you off and/or pick you up if they are available or otherwise you can catch the bus as they are generally located near your homestay family.
- Your homestay will need to email the international department to let them know you are having a sleepover.

Handy Hints:

- Check out the public transport system and ask your homestay family to help you.
- Most of our students catch the bus to and from school each day.
- The buses normally stop in school or just outside school
- Catching public and school buses in NZ are a very safe way to get around

Smoking, Vaping, Alcohol and Drug Use



Alcohol

- It is illegal to purchase or supply alcohol to anyone under the age of 18 years
- It is against the school rules to drink alcohol under 18 years of age.

Smoking & Vaping

- In NZ, it is illegal to buy cigarettes or vapes if you are under 18 years of age.
- It is against the school rules for you to smoke or vape as an international student at Rangitoto College or in Rangitoto College uniform.

Cellphones

You must carry your cellphone with you while you are living in New Zealand. This is for your safety so that your host family and the International Department can contact you at any time. Bring your cell phone from your own country and buy a SIM card in New Zealand.

You must NOT use your phone at school from the moment you enter the grounds until you leave at the end of the day. Under New Zealand law, schools are legally required to ensure students do not use or access cell phones during the school day.

Internet Use

Nearly all our homestay families will have unlimited broadband. However, make sure that you are only using it appropriately and within the times discussed with your homestay family. Ask your family if there are any restrictions for times at your house when you arrive.

Insurance

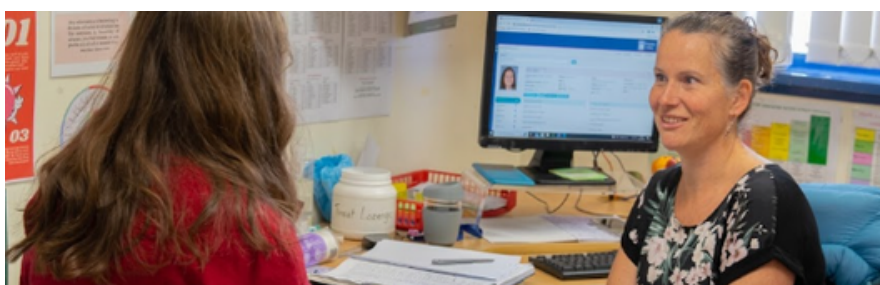
It is compulsory for all international students at Rangitoto College to have insurance, as explained in the application documents. If you damage or break something in your homestay, please let them know straight away rather than leave it for them to find later. The school can arrange for your insurance to pay for the damage or breakage, provided you are under Student Safe insurance. Our International Finance Officer can help you with any claims.

Medical

If you go to the Doctor while you are in New Zealand, you can choose to go to your host family's Doctor, or you can ask the school to recommend a local Doctor. It is important that if you are sick, you tell your host family so that they can inform the school.

If you go to the Doctor or A & E, please make sure you ask for and keep any doctors notes and receipts, as you will need these for your insurance claims.

If you're feeling unwell while at school, we have a Health Centre with nurses who can see you and will contact your host family if you need to go home.



Evenings, Going Out & Fitting in with Your Family

Handy Hints:

- Always say “please” and “thank you” when you are in New Zealand - this is very important and easy to say!
- When you arrive at your homestay (or a friend's house), look near the front door. You will usually see a mat or a pile of shoes. Leave yours there! It keeps the house clean, protects the carpets, and is a sign of respect for your host family's home.
- Remember to lock the doors and windows at night and whenever you leave the house and to turn off any electronics when you leave your house.
- **MAKE SURE YOUR PHONE IS ALWAYS CHARGED IF YOU ARE GOING OUT!!**
- If you are going out later than the agreed time, contact your homestay and let them know.

Most families tend to eat dinner together most nights of the week. Sometimes there are sports or activities after school or at night that mean families don't eat together. This is a time where the family catch up on what has happened during the day. This is also a great time for you to practice your English.

After dinner, relaxing by the TV is a common routine. Don't hesitate to join in and ask questions, even if the content is unfamiliar initially. Keep in mind that outdoor activities are also huge in New Zealand; many locals love playing or watching sports, heading to the beach, and going for walks.

Going Out

While host families often enjoy going to restaurants or the movies on weekends, weeknights are usually quieter. If you plan to hang out with friends after school or during the week, please follow these simple safety and respect guidelines:

- Keep your host family informed of where you are and what you are doing. Always ask for permission first. Let them know where you are going, who you will be with, and how to contact your friends' families.
- Plan your transport: Discuss how you will get to your destination and how you plan to return home. Make sure your AT Hop (bus) card is in your wallet and topped up for the bus.
- Stay contactable: Keep your cell phone charged, switched on, and with you at all times. It's always good to recharge your phone during the day just incase it's low of battery.
- Stick to curfew times: Your host family will give you a specific time to be home (just like they would for their own teenagers). Be sure to return by the agreed time.
- Hosting friends: Always check with your host parents before inviting friends over to make sure it's a good time for the household.

Above all, remember to be safe and be respectful!



Curfew Times

Below are the curfew times that we suggest our homestay families to follow. Some families have their own rules in their homes so please discuss this when you arrive.

AGE	SUNDAY- THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
13 YEARS	TO BE AGREED BETWEEN THE HOST FAMILY AND THE STUDENT. RANGITOTO COLLEGE RECOMMENDS A CURFEW OF NO LATER THAN 9 PM.	UNDER SUPERVISION	UNDER SUPERVISION
14- 15		10 PM	10 PM
16 YEARS AND OVER		11PM	11PM

Fitting into your Family

Think of the homestay house as your home, but always remember to respect the other people living there too.

When you arrive it is important to find out about the house rules that your host family adhere to. Maybe sit down with them and ask some questions to make sure you understand what these are. At the back of this booklet there are some great questions to ask them when you arrive. We suggest you sit together with your host family and write down the answers to these and sign it so you both understand everything together. Don't be afraid to ask about anything that you might not fully understand or need more clarification on.

Remember you are responsible for:

- Cleaning & vacuuming your own room
- Making sure you lock the house if you are the last to leave - this includes doors and all windows.
- Being on time for meals.
- If you are going to be late home - make sure you communicate with the family so they are aware.
- Turn off any appliances when you have stopped using them. Make sure all heaters are turned off - please don't leave them on all day or night.
- Respecting the rules of your family and the school regarding smoking or vaping as well as alcohol consumption.

Handy Hints:

- Every family is a little bit different! While the school suggests standard curfew times, your host family might have their own household rules.
- Sit down with your host family when you first arrive to discuss expectations. Use the questions at the back of your booklet, write down the answers together, and sign it so everyone is on the same page. Never be afraid to ask for clarification if you don't understand something!
- Think of your homestay as your own home, but always remember you are sharing it with others. Treating the house and the family with respect will make your time in New Zealand amazing!



Safety, Pocket Money, Sickness and any Problems

Safety in the Home

All homestay families are required to have smoke detectors in the home. When you arrive – perhaps ask where you should go in case there is ever a fire. If these are activated do not panic and try to remember what to do in an emergency.

Do not cook, use heaters or any other electrical appliances until you have asked your homestay first. Make sure all appliances are turned off after use.

Safety Outside the Home

We suggest you NEVER carry large amounts of cash on you when you leave your homestay. When you arrive we recommend opening a bank account. The international department can help you do this and provide the required documents you need when you arrive. Once you open a bank account in NZ, you will be provided with an EFTPOS/bank card. You will have a pin number for this card which makes it more secure.

If you lose any bank cards whilst in NZ, you will need to urgently contact your bank directly to cancel any cards. Please also inform your host family as well as someone from the international office.

If you are coming home later at night, it is best to walk with friends and not on your own. Sometimes host families are in locations that are away from main roads and can feel very dark and isolated at night when you are walking home. Please remember to tell your homestay where you are and when you are on your way home so they can expect you. The more you can communicate with them the better.



Pocket Money

While living in New Zealand, you will need to cover your own personal expenses, including entertainment, toiletries, extra snacks, and bus fares. We recommend a weekly allowance of around \$100-\$150. If you have specific dietary requirements (such as dairy-free products), please ensure your parents provide enough funds for these, as your homestay family is not responsible for these costs.

Please also keep the following in mind:

- **Special Diets:** If you require a specialized diet or change your dietary needs during your stay, a weekly special diet fee of \$50 may apply.
- **Family Trips:** If your homestay family invites you on a trip, it is customary to offer to contribute to the costs. Some families may accept, while others might decline, but asking is always appreciated.

Sickness

If you are sick or not able to come to school, you are expected to stay home. Your homestay family need to report your absence on the Parent Portal. If you are sick for longer than 3 days then you will need a medical certificate to explain why you were sick from a local doctor here in New Zealand. If you are too unwell to attend school, you must remain at home for the day to rest and recover. You should not go out with friends later in the day.

If you need to go to a doctor, your homestay family will need to take you to the doctor or the A & E (emergency doctors).

If you feel unwell at school, you need to talk to your teacher who will then ask you to go to the school nurse. If the nurse thinks you need to go home, they will then contact your homestay family who will either pick you up or let you walk home.

Resources for feeling Culture Shock, Homesickness, Anxiety or Depression can be found [here](#).

If you are feeling bad or sad and need to talk, please come and talk to us. We have counsellors at school to help you, or there are outside school professionals, some of whom specialise in working with international students and some can speak more than one language.

Problems

All Rangitoto College host families have a great relationship with the school. Many of them have hosted for us for several years and all of them have been through police checks before we place students with the family.

Our homestay coordinators work hard matching students to families and most of the time this works well. In fact, many of our students end up staying in contact and having a lasting friendship with their new hosts long after they have left New Zealand.

If for any reason you are unhappy about something that happens at home, please talk to our International Office staff about any problems you are having. It is easy to solve any small issues between the student and family, before they become larger issues. Generally most issues can be solved simply by talking to your host family.

Adjusting to a new country, a new school, and a new family layout is a major transition, and it's completely normal to feel a bit homesick or out of place at first. Because it takes time to find your rhythm and adapt to new household routines, we do not approve homestay moves during your first term. We find that your first term is the magic window where most students and families truly bond once they get past the initial awkward phase. If you are facing any challenges, our team will work closely with you to help you navigate them during this settling-in period.



Handy Hints:

- Homestay parents need to report absences on the parent portal through the Rangitoto College website.

Homestay/DCG Behaviour Report

Living with a homestay family is one of the most rewarding parts of studying abroad—it is your home away from home! However, it comes with the responsibility of respecting your host family's household rules, expectations, and daily routines.

When a student struggles to follow these guidelines or respect their host family, they will be placed on the Homestay/DCG Behaviour Report.

These expectations apply to all international students in our programme. If you are living with a Designated Caregiver (DCG) and struggle to comply with their household rules and expectations, you can also be placed on the Behaviour Report.

If you are placed on the Behaviour Report, your parents back home and your agent will be formally notified immediately. Please understand that this report is not just a penalty; it is a supportive tool designed to help you get back on the right track and rebuild a positive relationship with your hosts.

Here is how the Homestay/DCG Behaviour Report works:

- **Duration:** You will remain on the report for a period of 4 weeks.
- **Curfew Adjustment:** Any student placed on the behaviour report will have their curfew adjusted (shortened) to ensure focus is placed on resetting habits and building trust.
- **Daily Accountability:** Your host family will need to review your behaviour and sign off on your report each day.
- **The Goal:** To demonstrate consistent improvement, cooperation, and respect for your home environment.

Living in a shared home requires communication and mutual respect. Please note that failing to comply with the expectations of the Homestay Behaviour Report is a serious matter. It may result in a formal warning and/or removal from the homestay programme.

We want you to have an amazing, safe, and welcoming experience here—let's work together to keep your homestay a happy environment for both you and your host family!

If you don't understand a rule, or if you feel stuck, reach out to the Homestay Coordinators right away. We are here to support you!



Rangitoto College

GREAT OPPORTUNITIES – GREAT STUDENTS
Principal: P. P. C. Gale BA (Hons), MBA

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HOMESTAY / DCG BEHAVIOUR REPORT

STUDENT NAME: _____ HOMESTAY/DCG FAMILY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOMESTAY CONCERNS: Curfew / Room Tidiness / General Respect/Attitude

New Curfew Times: Mon – Thurs: Straight home after school Fri – Sun: 9pm (If curfew circled above)

Please fill out the form below for 1 month. If after 1 month the student above is not following the rules, they will be given a formal written warning and then put on one more month to improve. Should you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact our homestay office on 477 0150 (ext 664 or 668).

MONTH 1: ____ / ____ / ____ to ____ / ____ / ____

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1							
H/S Comments:							
Int'l Office Signature: _____ H/S Signature: _____							
WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
2							
H/S Comments:							
Int'l Office Signature: _____ H/S Signature: _____							
WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
3							
H/S Comments:							
Int'l Office Signature: _____ H/S Signature: _____							
WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
4							

Things to do in the Weekend

When you first arrive, take some time to make friends and get to know your family. Life in New Zealand might look a little different from what you're used to back home. Many Kiwi teenagers work part-time jobs after school or on weekends, so don't be surprised if your host siblings are often busy.

If your host family takes a trip, they will sometimes invite you along. If that's not possible, don't worry—we've got you covered. We will either arrange a welcoming temporary homestay for you, or your host family will have a trusted adult family member come stay at the house.

Please note: **For your safety, you are never allowed to stay in the house by yourself overnight.**

Here are some ideas of things you can do in the weekends. You can always come and see us in the International Department for some more information:

- Explore the Sky Tower & CBD
- Catch a Ferry to Rangitoto Island
- Walk Up a Volcano (Maungawhau / Mt Eden)
- A Day Trip to Waiheke Island
- Visit Auckland Zoo
- Spend the day at one of the many beaches
- Go to a sporting event at North Harbour Stadium or Eden Park
- Go on a coastal or bush walk
- Go shopping at one of the Big Five malls around Auckland
- Join the local gym
- Check out Snow Planet or Tree Adventures
- Try out some of the over 4,000 restaurants and cafes in Auckland

Handy Hints:

- You can buy an AT Hop card to travel around on buses
- Talk to your host family about the local bus system and which bus will take you around Auckland
- Don't wait till the end of your time at Rangitoto to do all your sightseeing!
- Book your trips around NZ either before or just when you arrive as the tours get booked up fast!



When you're planning weekend fun or after-school hangouts, remember that you shouldn't rely on your host family for transport. While they might be able to give you a lift or pick you up from time to time, it's important to always ask them politely well in advance.

Most Kiwi teenagers are highly independent and prefer to walk or use public transport to meet up with friends. Getting the hang of Auckland's bus network is a great skill to learn—once you master it, you'll find it super easy to explore the city.

Documents, Returning Home, Travel Dates, Visas

Handy Hints:

- Remember to give the International accommodation department a copy of your flights 5 weeks prior to your departure.
- Book your arrival and departure flights no more than 2 - 3 days prior to your start date and finish date.
- Don't leave it to the last minute to fit in all your sightseeing and trips.

Accurate Home Information

It is important that the school has up-to-date and accurate information on the address and contact details of your parents back home. This includes their home phone number, their mobile number and their email address.

Students must let the International Office know if there are any changes to your parents overseas details.

Returning Home for the Christmas Holidays

You must tell the International Department and your homestay family of your return travel dates, as well as your flight details at least 5 weeks before you return home.

For students that are returning home at the end of the year after completing their studies at Rangitoto College, we ask that you book your flights to depart Auckland no later than the weekend after the last day of school (2-3 days after school finishes).

Handover of Care Form

For any travel outside of New Zealand and anytime you're not staying with a tour company or your homestay family, your parents are required to fill out a Handover of Care form. This means that your parents are responsible for you during this time and not our school.



Questions for your Homestay Family

Here are some questions or things you might discuss with your homestay when you arrive. Write your answers alongside the questions, to help you remember. We have left some rows where you and your host family can put down any other questions you personally may want to ask.

General

What areas of the house are private e.g. the study, bedrooms

May I put posters/pictures in my room?	
Can I have friends over to visit?	
Do you have a house key for me?	
How do I get to school? Are there buses I need to catch to and from school?	
What is the street address here?	
What chores do you want me to help with?	
How often do you wash clothes and where can I keep my dirty laundry?	
What is the latest time I can take a shower in the evening?	

What chores do you want me to help with?

e.g.

- Make my bed
- Keep my room tidy
- Leave the bathroom clean and tidy
- Set or clear the dining table at meal times
- Load or unload the dishwasher
- Empty the rubbish bin
- Hang my washing on the clothesline (& take it in)

Times & Curfews

e.g.

- What time do I need to be home on weekdays and weekends?
- What time do you need me to get up on weekday mornings to get ready for school in time?
- How do I contact you if I am going to be home late?
- What time should I go to bed?

Laundry

e.g.

- How often do you wash clothes?
- Do you want me to do my own washing or do I just put it in the washing basket in the laundry on wash days?
- Do I put all my clothes in the washing basket, (including underwear) to be washed?

Meal Times

e.g.

- When do you normally have dinner? (approx times)
- If I am hungry can I help myself to food and drink in moderation, at any time or do I need to ask?
- What is the latest time I can use the kitchen?
- What time do I have to be home for dinner during the week and weekends?
- If I am out, when do I need to contact you to let you know if I am not going to be home for dinner?
- Do you want me to make my own breakfast or lunches? Can you please show me how?
- Can we maybe go to the supermarket so I can see what food is in NZ as it is different to my food in my country?
- What sort of food (like snacks or specialty diet items) am I expected to buy for myself?

Bathroom

e.g.

- If I don't have my own bathroom, what is the best time for me to shower in the weekday and weekends (i.e. mornings or nights?)
- What do you want me to do with my towel?
- Do I need to clean my bathroom?
- What is the latest time I can have a shower?

Phone/Internet/Computers

e.g.

- What are the rules about using a computer at home
- What time do I need to be off my devices at night
- What is the wifi password? _____
- Do you have my mobile number?
- What is your mobile number?



Host Family Guidelines

Please read through and write your answers with your new host family and sign at the bottom. Remember, good communication between you and your host family and mutual respect is the best way to have a happy hosting experience whilst in New Zealand.

Times expected home during the week and after school

After School:

Weeknights:
(before dinner)

Curfew times during the weekend:

Friday:

Saturday:

Sunday:

Household responsibilities expected of your international student:

Family guidelines and expectations:

I understand the homestay guide, the information provided and the host family's rules.

Signed:

[Student]

Signed:

[Host Parent]

Date:

Rangitoto College:

International Student Director:

International Administrator:

International Homestay Coordinator:

International Emergency Phone Number:

+64 9 477 0150

+64 9 477 0150 x 665

+64 9 477 0150 x 661

+64 9 477 0150 x 664

0800 563 263

Rangitoto College is bound by the Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Learners published by NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority)

Copies of the code of practice are available on the NZQA website: www.nzqa.govt.nz/tertiary/the-code



Rangitoto College

Great opportunities, Great students

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