



## INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM HOMESTAY & WELFARE POLICY

The Blackfriars Priory School International Program Homestay & Welfare Policy seeks to ensure that the School is meeting legal obligations under the ESOS Framework.

Students studying at Blackfriars Priory School have the following accommodation options:

1. Live with parent or nominated relative/guardian (No welfare responsibility by the School);
2. Live with Blackfriars Priory School approved Homestay organised by the School.

### Living with a Parent/Guardian or Approved Relative

At the time of enrolment, all International students are required to provide the School with details of their Parent/Guardian or Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) approved relative who they have nominated to live with. The appointment of the nominated parent/relative/guardian is the responsibility of the student's parents but must meet DIBP criteria being:

- ◆ Nominated relative must be one of the following: brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, step-parent, grandparent, step-grandparent, aunt, uncle, step-aunt, step-uncle, niece, nephew, step-niece, step-nephew or spouse. DIBP requires this guardian to be over 21 years old, an eligible relative and of good character.
- ◆ In the case of a student living with an approved relative/guardian as defined by DIBP a Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare form (CAAW) is not required as the School is not responsible for the student's welfare. If the School has any concerns about the welfare of a student it will contact the parents/guardians in the first instance. If the School believes the student is in some kind of danger it will contact DIBP as a matter of urgency.

### Living with parents granted a Guardian Visa (or similar)

For the purpose of caring for a student attending the school the following visa conditions apply: (<http://www.immi.gov.au/students./student-guardians/580/ibkugatuibs-student-guardinas.htm>)

It is essential that the parent or nominated guardian:

- ◆ Resides with that student at all times
- ◆ Must hold an appropriate visa enabling them to remain in Australia until the student is 18 years of age
- ◆ Provides the School with a copy of the parent's passport photos and visa page prior to the student commencing
- ◆ Advises the School of the student's and the parent's residential details, phone and email prior to the student commencing and thereafter within seven days of any change in these details.

### **Exceptions for parent guardians departing Australia without their son.**

You cannot leave Australia without the student for whom you are the guardian, unless you provide the department with evidence that:

- ◆ There are compassionate or compelling circumstances for you to leave the country and you have made alternative arrangements for the student's accommodation, general welfare and support until your return, that fit within the rules provided by DIBP

NOTE: If the student is less than 18 years, the alternative arrangements must be approved by the education provider subject to SDIBP conditions. In this situation you must notify the School.

### **Blackfriars Priory School International Program Homestay Provision**

The school is satisfied with the following Homestay services that:

1. Thoroughly checks suitability of accommodation by visiting the homestay residence
2. Selects and matches families that can provide a stable environment for the duration of the student's homestay period
3. Has agreements in place with homestay families for arrangements about providing accommodations services
4. Ensures that all adults over the age of 18 residing at homestay residence hold a current police check
5. Monitors the homestay families and general wellbeing arrangements
6. Provides an orientation program for families registered

The school accepts responsibility for the welfare of these students, even whilst place in arranged homestay as per the signed Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare form (CAAAW). Any concerns from students or parents regarding homestay should be first addressed to the International Student Liaison Officer who will immediately investigate and implement any action required.

### **Over 18 years studying at Blackfriars Priory School**

When a student turns 18 years of age, the School requires students to continue to live in approved accommodation arrangements until the end of their study at the School. Full Fee Paying Overseas Students are not permitted to live independently while enrolled at the School

### **Duty of Care**

The School's duty of care extends whilst the student is attending School and School events such as camps and excursions outside the School. Any recreational activities that occur outside the School day are the responsibility of the homestay parents to monitor.

The School is not responsible for the Homestay and Welfare of a student until they commence their enrolled course at Blackfriars Priory School.

### **Safety**

All international students should have their own mobile telephone. Students should not use public transport at night alone as it is not safe. It is the responsibility of the homestay family to be aware of the student's whereabouts at all times. Students must inform the homestay family of any plans outside School and the home. If the homestay is going away on holiday, students are not permitted to stay in the home by themselves and an alternative homestay will need to be arranged for the student until they return.

### **Students Travelling**

Where the School has signed a Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare form (CAAW) for a student as part of the student's visa grant process, the School is responsible for the Accommodation & welfare for the duration of the student's visa. For School holiday periods, parental consent needs to be documented, communicating arrangements including ravel home, dates when the student will leave and return, details of the airline and flight numbers and contact details of the person the student will be residing with while away. If a student is travelling outside school holiday periods, a written request from the parents must be made to the School seeking permission for travel during the School term. Permission should be requested before any travel bookings are finalised. It is important that any arrangements for the period of time after a student leaves the school until his visa expires are communicated to the School.

If an international student decides to travel to another destination whilst living with the homestay provider, the student is required to seek permission from the Principal and provide a letter of consent from their parents, flight departure and arrival times, travel itineraries and all contact details of who the student is visiting.

### **Change of Address and Current contact Details**

The School is required by law to request confirmation of current address and contact details in writing for each student (and parent or legal guardian if a student is under 18 years of age) at least every six months. Blackfriars Priory School will seek contact details from students including address, phone number and email address at the start of Term 1 and Term 3 annually.

Legislation requires that students notify the School of their address, phone and email prior to commencement and within 7 days of any changes when enrolled. Any changes to homestay arrangements must be approved by the School before the changes take place. If a student changes his accommodation arrangements without the approval of the School, or he refuses to move to appropriate accommodation if her current situation is deemed inappropriate, the School will first contact the parent/guardian and then a report may be made to DIBP outlining the fact that the School no longer approves of the students' arrangements. Such a report can lead to the cancellation of a student's enrolment as per our School Rules under Standard 13 of the National Code and DIBP visa conditions.

Policy authorised by:	Principal
Date policy implemented:	14/1/2014
Responsibility of updating Policy/Procedure:	Deputy Principal: Senior Administrator
Date Introduced:	28/1/2014
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