



Welcome an international student



Become a Host Family

Every year, many international high school students come to the United Kingdom to spend part of their education through **the WEP high school exchange program**. The stay can last up to 5 months!

As a host family, you get the opportunity to experience an enriching cultural exchange. You share your daily routines, traditions, and way of life while learning about the student's culture.

Host families broaden their horizons, gain new perspectives, and develop a greater understanding of the world.



Just in the blink of an eye, their stay comes to an end. The girls have been amazing; they have grasped all the opportunities they were given, but it's never really goodbye, it's see you later. We are still in touch with many of our lovely WEP students. In fact, we have just come back from Denmark after a super catch-up weekend with our past exchange student. Lifelong friendships are made through this wonderful programme."
Gaynor Pearson, UK Host Family

Who Can Become a Host Family?

First and foremost, a host family should be curious, open, and eager to learn about a new culture, a new way of life, and different perspectives.

A host family can:

- Live in England, Wales or Scotland
- Have young children, teenagers, older children, or no children at all.
- Be a couple of any age, a single parent, a same-sex couple, or a blended family.
- Live in an apartment or a house, in the city or the countryside.

Students can share a room with a host family's child of **the same gender and with less than a three-year age difference**.

When visiting your home, **our WEP area representatives focus on your genuine motivation** —the desire to provide a caring, supportive, and enriching experience for the student.

Families in the United Kingdom are **paid a monthly stipend** to support the costs of having a young person in your home.



Who Are the International Students?

Participants in the WEP program primarily aim to improve their English skills while familiarising themselves with **our culture and values**.

- Students are **between 16 and 18 years old** and come from all over the world.
- WEP has partnerships with many countries, including **Australia, Japan, Brazil, Argentina, France, Belgium, Mexico, Spain, Italy, Germany, and many others**.

These young people are selected by our international partners based on maturity, openness to new experiences, and academic performance. However, it's important to remember that they are teenagers coming into a completely unfamiliar environment—new language, new culture, new education system, new pace of life, etc.

All our participants are covered by health, repatriation, and liability insurance, ensuring they are protected during all daily activities.

While student success depends on the student themselves, the host family in the UK plays a crucial role in their development, as does the school. Students are required to attend classes and are expected to actively participate, just like any other British student.