South Australian Government Schools

# International Student Handbook





Department for Education

# Thank you for choosing to study in a South Australian government school.



In South Australia, we encourage you to enjoy your education, follow your ambitions and achieve extra-ordinary things. In this handbook, you will find all the important information you need to settle into your school and homestay, as well as study tips, fun facts about South Australia and even some inspirational quotes.

Don't forget to check out the back pages where you can record notes, messages and memories of your time in South Australia.

### This book belongs to

Preferred name
First name
Surname
Student ID
Mobile
OSHC number
My homestay's name
My homestay's mobile
My school ISP manager's name
My home group teacher's name
My goals for my study abroad experience

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# follow us

### Acronyms

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### IES

International Education Services

ISP International Student Program

**ISEC** Intensive Secondary English Course

**OSHC** Overseas Student Health Cover

**SACE** South Australian Certificate of Education

Student ID Student Identity Card



# **New friends**

Name	Nationality	Phone number

"In the end, we are our choices. Build yourself a great story."



# Record your study abroad journey

Recording your study abroad journey is a really great idea for creating lasting memories. Here are some creative ways to capture your favourite study abroad moments in South Australia.

Before using one of the online ideas, always check with your parents for permission as keeping you safe online is very important.



### **On paper**

### Keep a journal

Write down your thoughts and memories on a daily basis.

### **Create a scrapbook**

If you want to get more creative or enjoy craft, then build a paper scrapbook. You can include photographs, maps, your school timetable, drawings and other souvenirs such as entry tickets.

### Keep a sketchbook

If you like to draw, paint or even doodle, capture your experiences in a sketchbook. By scanning or photographing your sketches, you could incorporate them into a blog, your Instagram posts or your scrapbook - maybe even an exhibition!

### Make a photo book

Print off your best photographs and create a book to share with your family and friends. Or you can create the book online using a photo album app that allows you to order a printed copy.

### Send postcards home

A different way to keep track of your memories is to send yourself and your family postcards. When you return home, you can bind them together or pop them into a photo album for an instant scrapbook.



### **Start a collection**

A clever way to tie in all of your experiences is to create a collection around a common theme. The collection could be visual like images of food you've eaten on your travels or using a mascot to feature in your images. Use your imagination, but think lightweight, cheap and small.

### Online

### Keep an online journal

Download a diary, notebook or journal app that you like the look of. Use time on the bus and other spare moments to record memories while they are fresh in your mind.

### Start a blog

This is an excellent option if you would like to share your adventures with your friends and family back home. There are many blogging sites available that are free and easy to use.

### Start a vlog

If you like to take videos, starting a vlog is a fantastic alternative. Use the video camera on your phone and a free, simple program like iMovie or Windows Movie Maker for basic editing. YouTube and Vimeo are the most popular platforms for posting your vlog.

### Start a series of selfies

Come up with a creative twist to capture yourself on your journey.

# Post photos and videos on Instagram

Instagram is a quick and easy way to capture your memories in a primarily visual way. You could even create your own study abroad #hashtag.

### **Create a Pinterest board**

Pinterest boards can be used in a number of different ways along your study abroad journey. One of these ways is for use as a collection of memories. Pin images from your trip, from your personal blog if you're keeping one, maps of places you've been, pictures of new foods you've tasted or cultural experiences you've enjoyed.

### Use a story telling app

Create a story around your experiences. There are a number of storytelling apps available to choose from.

### **Create a playlist**

If you are into music, why not create a playlist to bring back the best memories when you return home. Think about the songs that are meaningful to your study abroad journey. You can create playlists with Spotify (or similar) that are shareable. They can also be embedded into your blog to add a new dimension.

Have fun and enjoy recording your memories!

# Homestay accommodation

Homestay accommodation provides an opportunity for you to experience Australian family life. Living with a homestay family can be personally rewarding and culturally enriching for both you and your homestay family.

Living in a homestay can help you become independent and learn valuable life skills, as well as providing a supportive environment for your study so that you can focus and achieve good academic results.

This may be your first time living away from your own family or living in a different country. Adjusting to a different culture, language, climate and even food takes time. It may take a few weeks to adjust to and feel comfortable in your new environment and routine. If you are not sure about expectations in the home, please check with your homestay.

# Settling in

In the early days you may experience some homesickness. You may feel tired, confused, frustrated, lonely or sad, or a combination of these. Your homestay family will support you and help you to adjust to your new environment.

Your homestay will show you around the home and introduce you to family members and pets. They will explain family routines and any rules which you are asked to please respect and follow.

Please remember that you are a member of your homestay family and an ambassador for your country. You are expected to follow the common rules of polite behaviour. The following tips will help you to settle into your new family:

- ✓ Join in family conversations and activities.
- ✓ Respect your family's routines.
- ✓ Offer to help out with household chores.
- Always treat property with care.
- Ask permission to invite friends home and to go out with friends.
- Pay for your personal expenses including phone calls and personal hygiene products.

## Communication

It is important that you speak with your homestay so that they can support you while you live and study in South Australia. You can talk about your family, friends, your school day, school subjects, your interests and hobbies. Meal times are a good opportunity to interact with family members.

Your homestay family will be keen to get to know you better and learn about your country and culture. You will have the opportunity to become involved in family outings and activities. You can accept the invitation or decline politely if you do not want to participate.

You will need to ask your homestay parent to sign any permission forms for school activities and notify your school if you are going to be absent. You are expected to show your homestay parent your school report, newsletter and any other information you are given during the school day.

# **Understanding English**

If you do not understand what someone is saying, do not be embarrassed to ask people what they said or what they mean.

Ask your homestay family to correct you when you say something incorrectly. This will help you learn to speak English much quicker.

# **Common routines and rules**

- Bedtime most families go to bed around 10pm and get up around 7am.
- Noise and phone calls after 9pm or before 7am are generally not acceptable.
- Parents in Australia become concerned if children stay up later than 11pm.
- It is usually acceptable to stay up later and 'sleep in' on weekends if the family has no other commitments.
- Borrowing or using belongings of other homestay members without their permission is not acceptable.
- You are expected to go straight home after school unless you have negotiated alternative arrangements with your homestay.
- Water is a valuable resource in Australia.
  Please be mindful of how much water you use, particularly when using the bathroom or shower facilities. Try not to stay under the shower for longer than 5 minutes.
- Electricity is expensive. Please switch off electric lights, heaters, fans and computers when not in use.

### Tips on safety in the home

- There may be some electrical appliances in your new home that you are not familiar with. Please ask your homestay parent how they work before using unfamiliar items.
- Some electrical appliances brought from overseas countries may not be compatible with electrical circuits in Australia. Please check with your homestay parent before using appliances you have brought from overseas.

- Many families have power points and use electrical appliances such as hair dryers in the bathroom. This can be dangerous if there is a lot of water about. Ask your homestay parent to explain the basic rules to use these safely in the bathroom.
- If you are leaving your room for more than a few minutes, switch off the heater, fan or air-conditioner.
- Never dry clothes by placing them on or near heaters.
- Keep your valuables (camera, laptop, electronic devices) out of sight when not in use.
- Do not keep large amounts of money on you or in your bedroom at any time.
- If you are provided with a key to the house, please look after it and do not give it to anyone.
- Do not let strangers into the home if you are home alone, even if they say they are friends of the family or repair/trades people. Contact your homestay parent to check.

### Valuables

Your homestay parent needs to know about any valuables you may have. You should ask your homestay parent to find out if your valuables are covered by their home and contents insurance. If not, you should arrange your own personal insurance so that you are covered for theft or damage of your belongings.

### Mobile phone and phone card

Your homestay will help you to purchase a SIM card for your mobile phone. Remember to add your important numbers into your mobile phone.

### Internet

- Internet use is included in your homestay fees for school use (homework and research) and making contact with your family and friends from home. Screen time and downloading should be kept to a minimum.
- Please be aware that excessive internet usage may mean that internet availability is limited.

### **Going out**

For your safety, it is important that your homestay parent knows your whereabouts and can contact you at all times.

It is important that you:

- ask your homestay parent for permission before going out
- let your homestay parent know where you are going, how you are getting there and home, when you will return and who you are going with
- return by the agreed time
- ✓ always ring if you think you will be late home
- ✓ leave your mobile phone turned on.

You are required to comply with standard IES curfew times while staying with an IES homestay unless alternatives have been negotiated between you, your homestay, your school and your natural parents.

#### **Curfew Times**

#### **Sunday to Thursday**

- Years 7 to 10 no later than 6:00pm, unless for a school-approved extracurricular activity.
- Years 11 to 12 no later than 7:00pm, unless for a school-approved extracurricular activity.

### Friday/Saturday and school holidays

- Years 7 to 10 no later than 9:30pm, unless for a school-approved extracurricular activity.
- Years 11 to 12 no later than 10:30pm, unless for a schoolapproved extra-curricular activity.

For your own safety you should:

- travel in the company of others
- find out about areas (particularly at night) to be avoided
- avoid taking shortcuts across parks, near trees and bushes, ovals and dimly lit areas either on your own or with friends
- avoid catching public transport too late at night – take a taxi instead
- check the bus or train timetable carefully to avoid waiting too long for transport
- never accept a ride with a stranger
- have the telephone numbers of your homestay parent and emergency contact with you as well as saved in your mobile phone.



# **Overnight stays**

You must negotiate staying away overnight with your homestay parent and are only permitted to stay overnight at an accredited homestay. Your homestay parent may give permission if they are happy with the arrangement and know where you will be and who you will be with.

It is unacceptable for you to contact your homestay and say you will not be returning home that night.

### **Homestay payments**

Homestay payments for High School Study Abroad Program students are managed by IES.

If you are a High School Graduate Program student, your first homestay payment of 2 weeks fees is due on arrival. After this, you need to make homestay payments every 2 weeks (fortnightly). Homestay payments should be made on time. It is a good idea to keep a reminder in your phone or diary so that you do not forget. If you have urgent financial issues and are unable to make a homestay payment, please speak with your ISP Manager.

It is recommended that homestay payments are made by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). If payment is made by cash, please ensure that you ask your homestay for a receipt.

If you cause any damage or loss in your homestay, you are responsible for covering the cost of repairs and/or replacement. You are required to pay your homestay promptly.

Your school or IES should be notified if you and your homestay disagree about any damage or the cost of repair or replacement. IES may be involved to help in settling the dispute or will arrange a mediator to resolve the situation.

### **Change of homestay**

Changing homestay is not simple and will usually only occur if there is a very difficult situation between a student and homestay that cannot be resolved.

Any change in homestay must be negotiated with your ISP Manager and approved by IES, who will then advise the Immigration Department on your behalf. A change of homestay fee of \$200 may be charged.

You may wish to inform your homestay of your intention to move. IES will confirm your move with your homestay and in most cases IES will arrange the move date to be when the next homestay payment is due.

Before you leave your homestay, you are strongly encouraged to check your room with your homestay for any damage. You will need to pay your homestay for any damage you may have caused and settle any outstanding homestay fees.

### **Unresolved concerns**

Should there be any disagreement, dispute, discomfort, danger or worry about staying in your homestay, please speak with your ISP Manager.

If the matter is urgent please call the **IES Emergency Phone on 0401 123 205**. An IES representative will help you resolve the situation.

# Study Contractions

### 1. Organisation

- Set up your study space with mementos from home
- Plan your study, create a timetable
- Make time for extra-curricular activities

### 2. Goals

- Set yourself clearly defined and realistic goals
- Appreciate what motivates you to study and do well
- □ Practice, practice, practice your English!
- □ Focus on accomplishing your future goals







### 3. Health

- Drink water, snack on healthy food
- □ Take breaks, clear your head and regain focus
- □ Exercise regularly, get some fresh air
- Learn how to manage your worries
- □ Make sure you get enough sleep at night

### 4. Productivity

- Develop good study habits
- □ Minimise distractions, put your phone away
- □ Learn how to manage your time
- □ Avoid procrastination

### 5. Help

- □ Ask your teachers and homestay for advice
- Plan study sessions with your friends
- Make the most of the facilities and resources at your school

### **Independent living**

IES does not encourage students to live independently due to the difficulties many students experience and the disruption it can cause to your studies. To be eligible for independent living you must:

- ✓ be over 18 years
- ✓ have parent permission
- ✓ have school permission

Your school will also require you to have:

- ✓ completed at least one term of Year 12
- ✓ consistently high grades in all subjects
- an excellent attendance and punctuality record

### **Change of address**

You must always inform IES and your school if:

- ✓ you change your mobile number
- ✓ your homestay changes address and/or telephone number
- ✓ your parents in your home country change address and/or telephone number

Students living independently are also required to notify the Immigration Department of any of the above. This is the student's responsibility. Students who fail to do this are in breach of their visa and IES is required to report this to the Immigration Department.

"Dreams don't work unless you do



# Your school

### **Expectations**

You will be provided with the school rules and policies when you enrol. You are expected to make sure you know and understand the school rules. If you are not clear on any of the rules you should ask your ISP Manager or home group teacher.

If you are absent from school your homestay parent will be required to contact the school before 9am. If you are absent for more than 2 days, you must go to the doctor and obtain a medical certificate. Your visa requires that you maintain satisfactory attendance at all times.

# **Identification card**

All students must have an identification (ID) card. Your school will arrange for a photo to be taken for your card.

Please carry your ID card for personal safety and use:

- at your school library
- on public transport
- ✓ shops and movies for student discount
- when you are away from your homestay

Please report lost cards to your school.

# Harassment and bullying

In South Australia there are laws to protect you from being harassed or bullied. Harassment, bullying and inappropriate behaviour in any form including via social media is forbidden.

Each school has rules which protect the rights of all students. Students who harass, bully or behave inappropriately towards others will be penalised.

If you feel harassed or discriminated against, you should immediately inform a teacher at your school, your ISP Manager or a school counsellor.

# Tips for successful study

Education in Australia may be very different from that in your home country. Timetables, lesson times and student rules may all be different. Talk to your teachers if you are experiencing problems.

Learning a new language and making new friends can also be very challenging. It is important that you have adequate sleep and regular meals as you settle into your new school and home routines.

Some students experience problems in the classroom and managing independent learning. A good study plan with time allocated for social and recreational activities will help you to succeed. A balance between study, recreation and family life is important.

### In the classroom

- ✓ If you do not understand teacher directions or part of the lesson speak to the teacher during or after the lesson and explain your difficulties.
- ✓ In Australia, students are expected to ask for help when they need it.
- Remember to use "please" when asking for assistance and "Thank you for helping me" after you have been assisted.
- ✓ If you cannot read teacher hand written notes on the white board or in tests, ask for an explanation.
- Most schools deliver curriculum online and emails are commonly used for communicating. Check your school emails regularly.

#### **Independent learning**

- Students are given 'study time' during which they are responsible for organising and managing their own learning. This can be difficult if you have not learned how to do this effectively. Avoid wasting valuable time and falling behind in your assignments.
- Ask your home group or subject teachers to help you develop daily/weekly study plans for homework assignments and study time at school.
- ✓ Do not leave assignments until the last minute. Work on them consistently and show your teachers your draft work. This will help you achieve a satisfactory standard of work.
- Electronic dictionaries may not give an accurate translation and cannot be used in exams. It is a good idea to buy a good bilingual dictionary and keep it in your bag for use in the classroom and Resource Centre.

#### **Resource Centre**

- Teachers in Australia often set research assignments where information is not in your textbook. To do well in these assignments you may need to learn how to access additional information from the Resource Centre, internet or from interviewing people in the community.
- The teacher-librarian will help you to learn how to access information for assignments. It is important that you do not copy directly from a book or the internet, as all work handed in for marking must be in your own words.

# **Care and support**

There are a number of people able to assist you if you are unhappy or have a problem at home or school. For example, you may be unhappy about your school timetable, subjects, treatment from a student or staff member or aspects of your homestay accommodation.

People who can help you include:

- ✓ your home group teacher
- ✓ your ISP Manager
- school counsellors
- your homestay parent
- your year level co-ordinator
- your school Principal

It is important to talk about your concerns as soon as possible and before they get more complex and harder to solve.

If you are unable to talk to your homestay parent or anyone at school about a problem, please contact IES on 8226 3402 to make an appointment.

# Disputes (grievances) and complaints/appeals

If you have a grievance about an issue or need to appeal against a decision, please discuss this with your ISP Manager first. You should also refer to the **Complaints and Appeals** document that you received as part of your orientation pack. Complaints or disputes will be handled promptly.

If it cannot be resolved, please telephone IES (8226 3402) and make an appointment with the Executive Manager, International Student Services. You have the right to involve an independent advocate or nominee.

# "Every mistake you make is progress."

# **School holidays**

If you intend on travelling within South Australia, interstate or overseas during the school holidays you are required to discuss your plans with your ISP Manager before making any arrangements. Travel can only occur during the school holidays and with an approved tour company, unless you are travelling with your homestay family or parents.

If approved, you are required to complete the International Student Travel Form.

This is a requirement for your personal safety and a condition of your student visa. Your school is required to know where you are going to be during the school holidays and to approve your travel dates.

## **Room holding fee**

If you are in the High School Graduate Program and going away for more than a week during the school holidays, you are required to pay your homestay the Room Holding Fee. This ensures that no one else will occupy your room in your absence. Please obtain a schedule of Room Holding Fees from the ISP Manager at your school and discuss this with your homestay parent.

Room holding fees do not apply to High School Study Abroad Program students.

### End of year arrangements

You may decide to return home at the end of the school year. If so, you must comply with the school's attendance expectations leading up to the end of the school year.

On completion of your program, and before leaving, you are required to:

- ✓ complete a school leaver's form
- return all school equipment and materials to your school
- ✓ fulfil any other school requirements.

### Return to school arrangements

You are required to return to school in time for the first day of each term. This is important for visa conditions and the success of your study.

# Other important points to remember

- Permission to travel during the year must be given by your school.
- You will need to provide your school with a copy of your flight details.
- You are not permitted to stay home by yourself if your homestay parents go on holidays. Another homestay approved by IES will be organised for you.
- Let your homestay parent know of your return flight.
- You may not travel during school term unless it is a school excursion, or approved study tour.

# Tuition fees

If your enrolment is longer than 2 terms (1 semester) but less than 8 terms, IES will send you or your agent an invoice for the second portion of your first year of tuition fees once you have started your course.

If you continue studying after one year as a Graduate Program student, IES will send you additional invoices twice a year. You will receive an invoice in approximately May each year for Terms 3 and 4 and another invoice in approximately October for Terms 1 and 2 the following year.

All payments must be paid in Australian Dollars (AUD) by the due date on the invoice. Payments not made by this date will incur an AUD\$100 late fee.

You can pay in person with:

- cheque or money order (payable to 'Department for Education') or
- credit card (ensure that your daily limit is sufficient to pay your invoice in full).
- Please note: CASH cannot be accepted.

Payments can be made:

Monday to Friday, 8.30am – 5.00pm, International Education Services Ground Floor West, Education Centre 31 Flinders Street, Adelaide **To pay by phone,** you can call International Education Services on (o8) 8226 3402 to pay your invoice by credit card.

**To pay by post**, you can post a cheque or money order (payable to 'The Department for Education') to:

International Education Services GPO BOX 1152 Adelaide SA 5001

Please write invoice number, family and first name of student, school and your phone number on the back of your cheque or money order.

**To pay by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)**, direct credit payments, BPay or BPoint, please refer to your invoice for details.

You must then email your payment receipt to Education.IESFinance@sa.gov.au and provide the name of your bank, invoice number, family and first name of student, school and your phone number. *"Always* remember you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think."

"Keep going, because you did not come this far just to come this far."

# **Your health**

### Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC)

If you are on a Student visa (subclass) 500, you are required to have Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the duration of your visa.

OSHC is medical insurance which will help you to pay for:

- a doctor to treat you in hospital, at home or at the doctor's surgery
- ✓ ambulance, x-rays and blood tests
- full public hospital cover
- benefits towards treatment and private hospital accommodation
- benefits towards pharmaceutical medicines

You can choose any doctor/general practitioner (GP) you wish. If you need to see a doctor, ask your homestay parent to help you make an appointment.

When a medical service takes place in any doctor's surgery, OSHC pays 100% of the scheduled fee. Some doctors charge more than the scheduled fee. You will be required to make this additional gap payment. It is best to ask whether this happens before making an appointment.

If you want insurance that covers other treatments e.g. dental, optical, Chinese herbalism, you can take out 'Extras Cover', via the website below.

OSHC arranged by Department for Education is with BUPA Australia.

For further information please go to **bupa.com.au/health-insurance/cover/oshc** or contact BUPA Australia OSHC on **1800 888 942**.

If you are on a Tourist/Visitor visa, the Department for Education strongly recommends that you arrange an appropriate insurance policy providing comprehensive medical and travel insurance prior to your arrival in Australia.

You can also go to the Accident and Emergency (A&E) department of any public hospital and be treated. You will have to wait some time to see a doctor if you are not seriously ill. You will be charged for the consultation.

# Hospitals

OSHC gives you full cover for all charges in a shared ward in any public hospital. However, if your own doctor treats you and charges above the scheduled fee, you will have to pay the difference.

OSHC will also cover all charges should you receive treatment as an outpatient of a public hospital.



# **Private transport**

International Education Services does not encourage international students to drive.

You may only drive a vehicle:

- while using a South Australian driver's licence (international driver's licence not acceptable)
- if the vehicle is registered under the student, parent or legal custodians's name, and
- if the vehicle is subject to full comprehensive insurance that has coverage for an at-fault driver.

Before applying for a driver's licence in South Australia, you must inform and seek permission from your:

- Natural parents
- ✓ School ISP Manager
- ✓ Homestay (if applicable) for parking purposes

You must adhere to your school's specific driving policies/expectations and abide by Australian law at all times.

You are not permitted to apply for a driver's licence until you have completed your Intensive Secondary English Course (ISEC).

You may, with the permission of your natural parent(s), undertake driving lessons with a professional driving instructor only when holding a South Australian learner's licence.

You must not be a passenger in a vehicle unless the vehicle is registered, roadworthy, properly maintained and has adequate insurance to cover damage to property and injury to persons. To get a South Australian driver's licence:

- You must be 16 years or older to apply for a Learner's Permit. You will need to sit a written theory test on the road rules.
- Once you have passed this test and had your photo taken, you qualify for a Temporary Learner's Permit (fees apply). All Learner's Permit drivers must be supervised by a qualified driver while driving.
- To obtain a Provisional Licence you must have held a Learner's Permit for at least 12 months. You will need to comply with the current logbook regulations (mylicence.sa.gov.au) and then take and pass a driving test. A licence fee applies.
- You are required to hold a Provisional Licence for two years or until you are 19 years of age, whichever is longer, before qualifying for a full licence. There are requirements you must meet while you have a Provisional Licence.

For further information visit Service SA at 108 North Terrace, Adelaide, phone **13** 10 84 or go to **sa.gov.au/topics/driving-and-transport**.

START

# **Working part-time**

Under the South Australian Government Schools Term and Conditions of Enrolment, if you are enrolled in a High School Study Abroad Program of one year's duration or less, you are not permitted to work.

If you are a High School Graduate Program student and have completed your Intensive Secondary English Course (ISEC), you may be granted approval from your school to work parttime. You must comply with your visa conditions in relation to part-time work.

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# Student visa compliance

Student visas are granted subject to a number of conditions. It is important that you understand and comply with these conditions. Non-compliance could result in your visa being cancelled and you would then be required to leave Australia.

#### Visa Condition No 8105 – Work

- I may not work in Australia until I have begun my course
- I am only permitted to work up to 40 hours per fortnight during the school term.

#### Visa Condition No 8202 – Attendance

- I must maintain full time enrolment
- I must remain enrolled in a registered course
- I must maintain satisfactory attendance in my classes.

#### Visa Condition No 8202 – Academic Performance

- I must maintain satisfactory course progress
- I am not permitted to repeat a course more than once.

#### Visa Condition No 8202 – In School Behaviour

 Suspension for inappropriate behaviour will affect my attendance record and course progress.

#### Visa Condition No 8303 – Out of School Behaviour

- I must not be involved in activities that are disruptive to, or in violence threaten harm to, the Australian community or group within the Australian community
- I must behave in an acceptable manner at all times.

#### Visa Condition No 8501 – Health Insurance

 I must maintain adequate arrangements for health insurance while in Australia.

# Visa Condition No 8516 – Satisfying requirements of Student Visa

 I must continue to satisfy the requirements for grant of my student visa, including having sufficient financial capacity to support my study and stay in Australia.

#### Visa Condition No 8532 – Accommodation Arrangements

- If I am under 18 I must stay either
  - > in approved accommodation
  - > with my parent/s
  - > with suitable relative
- I must not change arrangements without written approval from IES.

#### Visa Condition No 8533 – Changing Education Provider

 I am not permitted to change education provider (South Australian Government Schools) until I have completed 6 months of my course of study.

#### Visa Condition No 8533 – Residential Address

 I must notify IES of my residential address and any change of address within 7 days if my accommodation has not been arranged by IES.

If you want to stay longer than your original Confirmation of Enrolment (COE) and visa allow, please ask for a new Letter of Offer and COE in plenty of time for you to lodge your new visa application.

# **"The capacity** to learn is a gift; the ability to learn is a skill; the willingness to learn is a choice."

– Brian Herbert

# Australian law

If a student breaks the law of the country they can be charged, imprisoned or sent back to their home country. Please be aware of the following laws:

#### Alcohol

In South Australia, it is illegal for anyone under 18 years of age to purchase alcohol. In line with the South Australian Government Schools Terms and Conditions of Enrolment, you are not permitted to consume or purchase alcohol, take alcohol to school or accept it from others. It is illegal for a person over 18 years of age to supply alcohol to a person under 18 years of age.

#### Drugs

There are severe penalties for possessing, using or dealing in illegal drugs. Students should avoid being in situations with people in possession of drugs.

#### Gambling

It is illegal for students under 18 years of age to gamble online or go into gambling venues.

#### Stealing and vandalism

There are severe penalties for students involved in stealing or damaging public property.

#### Tattoos

In South Australia it is illegal for anyone under 18 to get or be tattooed, even if parents give their permission.

#### Tobacco

It is against the law for anyone under 18 to purchase tobacco products. Most schools suspend students caught smoking at school or outside of school in school uniform.

Stop doubting yourself, work har

# Keeping you safe

Your safety and wellbeing is the highest priority to your homestay, school, parents and IES.

Students in Australia are taught that:

- ✓ we all have the right to be safe
- we all have a responsibility to behave appropriately towards and with other people (adults and children)
- we can help ourselves to be safe by talking to people we trust.

Abusive behaviour, bullying and harassment are against the law in Australia.

Please take the time to read the **Keeping You Safe** document that you received as part of your orientation pack. It will help you to recognise different forms of abuse and explain ways in which you can protect yourself.

# Social media safety

d and make it happen."

It is important that your online profile/s has appropriate images, limited personal information and a secure password. All your settings should be set to private and you should check your settings and change your password regularly.

### International student emergency contact

IES offers a 24 hour **Emergency telephone** service on 0401 123 205.

Please use the emergency number for:

- ✓ situations where you feel at risk
- ✓ serious injury or health problems
- victim or witness to a crime
- ✓ serious situation in your homestay
- ✓ serious environment danger e.g. fire, flood
- ✓ abuse

Emergency telephone numbers in Adelaide:

- DIAL 000 or 112 on your mobile phone for Police, Fire or Ambulance Emergency for immediate attention.
- DIAL 131 444 for Police Attendance (no immediate danger)

In an emergency, remember to stay calm and provide full details of the emergency, including your full name and where you are.

Emergency Services 000 Police Assistance 131 444 IES Emergency Phone 0401 123 205

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# Experience life outside of school



One of the best ways to settle in and make friends is to participatel Join a lunchtime club, school sport or extra-curricular activity. Or you could attend a festival, watch a local event or volunteer in the community.

# **Study Adelaide**

#### studyadelaide.com/live/studyadelaide-events

You can sign up to the Study Adelaide website and receive information on upcoming events. Their student engagement program provides free or discounted tickets to international students.

# Active in the city

#### cityofadelaide.com.au/city-living/ being-active-in-the-city

Active in the City is an initiative of the City of Adelaide encouraging use of the fitness trails and sporting facilities within the city.



# **Explore the city**

#### cityofadelaide.com.au/explore-the-city

Download a map or trail guide and start exploring Adelaide. There are city maps and a range of guides on the various historical, arts, walking, cycling and biodiversity trails.

### **South Australian events**

#### southaustralia.com/whats-on

This website lists a wide range of events in Adelaide and across South Australia. You can sign up to receive monthly emails.

### Tourist attractions in South Australia

#### southaustralia.com/things-to-do/attractions

This website lists over 800 tourist attractions in Adelaide and across South Australia including beaches, parks, shopping and markets. You can filter by type of activity and cost (or free).

### Libraries in the city

#### cityofadelaide.com.au/your-community/libraryservices/city-library

The City Library offers free information and comeand-try sessions on different forms of technology such as 3D printing and design software. You can also book a time to use the specialist computers free of charge in the Digital Hub or Media Lab.

#### slsa.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=1078

The State Library provides free access to the latest digital resources. They also provide free learning programs for students to assist with your study.



### What's on in Adelaide?

Adelaide is home to some of Australia's largest festivals and events.

January	Tour Down Under – Australia's greatest cycling event
February/ March	Adelaide Fringe Festival – the second largest arts festival in the world
September	The Royal Adelaide Show – the biggest event in South Australia
October	OzAsia Festival – international Asian arts festival including the spectacular Moon Lantern Festival
November	The Adelaide Christmas Pageant – the largest Christmas parade in Australia

# Some fun ideas to start you off!

- Have vegemite on toast for breakfast
- Take a selfie at the Mall's Balls
- Hop on a bus to Cleland Wildlife Park and cuddle a koala
- Walk from Waterfall Gully to Mt Lofty and enjoy an icecream at the top
- Go to Belair National Park, play tennis and have a BBQ
- Barrack for a team at a local Aussie Rules footy game
- Enjoy a meat pie and vanilla slice from your local bakery
- Visit the Adelaide Zoo and meet the keeper
- Learn about Aboriginal culture at the SA Museum
- Go for a bike ride along the River Torrens
- Buy some local produce from the Adelaide Central Market
- Explore the food and shops in Chinatown
- Take the tram to Glenelg for a swim and fish and chips



#### INTERNATIONALSTUDENTS.SA.EDU.AU



# **Money matters**

### **Bank account**

Ask your homestay parent to help you open a bank account and get an Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) card. To open a bank account you will need a form from your school and your passport. When you have selected a bank, ask to open a student account. You must remember to inform the bank each year while you are still a student.

It is a good idea to set a daily withdrawal limit on your card. Then if your card is lost or stolen no more than that amount can be taken out in one day.

# ATM/cash card/debit card

For purchases over \$100, you operate your card using a Personal Identification Number (PIN). This is a secret number which you must remember. DO NOT tell it to anyone or write it on or near your card.

#### PayPass/PayWave

Debit cards will be enabled with paywave/ paypass that allows you to tap your card, rather than inserting or swiping your card and entering a PIN. This can only be used for purchases of up to \$100.

# **Managing your money**

Your parents may have sent you to Australia with a large amount of money, especially if you pay your homestay yourself. You must budget this money carefully so that it lasts for the time your parents expect it to.

You are expected to be financially independent and meet all personal expenses; entertainment, telephone calls, medical, public transport and other personal incidental costs. If needed, ask your homestay or International Student Program (ISP) Manager to help you organise a budget.

### Tips for keeping you and your money safe

- Do not carry around large amounts of cash.
- Do not borrow from or lend money to homestay parents or friends.
- Keep airline tickets, valuables, money and passports in a safe place.
- Do not open your wallet/purse in public.
- Do not use ATMs at night or when by yourself.
- If your card is lost or stolen notify the bank immediately. Ask your homestay or school to help if necessary.

# Lending and borrowing

DO NOT lend money to anyone. Tell them you are not allowed to lend money. If you lend money and it is not repaid there may be very little we can do to help you. If you lend money and then you cannot pay your homestay or your tuition fees, it may affect your student visa.

If you suddenly find yourself short of money DO NOT borrow from anyone. Talk to your ISP Manager.

If an adult (e.g. homestay parent, family friend) asks you for money, please tell your ISP Manager. If a person says that if you do not give them money, they will hurt you or say bad things about you it is a matter for the police because this behaviour is against the law.

# **Transferring money**

Money can be transferred to Australia by bank drafts or cheques and telegraphic transfer. Bank drafts from overseas will take a few days to arrive and can take up to 10 working days to clear through an Australian bank. Telegraphic transfers usually take a shorter time, but cost more.

# **Bargaining and tipping**

Bargaining is not usual in Australia. Tipping is becoming more common in Australia, particularly in cafes, restaurants and taxis in the bigger cities, however, you do not have to tip.

# "Don't ignore your own potential."



# Farewell message from my friends

# Farewell message from my teachers

# Farewell message from my homestay family

~

# **5** Daily Reminders **1.** I am amazing 2. I can do anything 3. Positivity is a choice 4. I celebrate my individuality 5. I am prepared to succeed

# Important numbers and resources

Your health, wellbeing and safety are important to us. There are a number of websites that provide useful information and resources covering a wide range of issues and topics that you may be interested in.

If you have any concerns, please talk to your homestay or the ISP manager at your school. They will be able to assist with advice and support. If you have a serious concern after hours, please contact the IES emergency phone on 0401 123 205.

Emergency Services

Police Assistance 131 444

IES Emergency Phone 0401 123 205

Organisation	About	Website and Contact
Australia Resou	Health information and advice.	<u>healthdirect.gov.au</u>
	Resources are also available in Chinese and Vietnamese.	Speak to a registered nurse: 1800 022 222
Headspace	Learn about mental health. Information to support a young person going through a tough time.	headspace.org.au
Youth Helpful tips and strategies to help		youthbeyondblue.com
Beyond Blue		24 Hour Support: 1300 22 4636
		App: Youthbeyondblue The Check-in
•••••	••••••	•••••
Kids Helpline	Ipline Help on how to deal with issues such as passive or aggressive communication, cyberbullying and cultural differences and conflict.	kidshelpline.com.au
		24 Hours 'Any time, any reason': 1800 55 1800
•••••	••••••	•••••



### Apps you may want to know about

These apps cover everything from keeping safe to mental health and study life. The Kids Helpline has lots of other apps on their website that you may find useful.

T	Help Me	This app is designed to teach young people about safety and help keep you safe in personal emergency situations.
	Headspace	Guided meditations and mindfulness techniques that bring calm, wellness and balance to your life.
	MindMax	An app to maximise wellbeing and resilience.
A	Space	An app to help break mobile phone addiction.
	Fabulous	A personal motivation coach and happiness trainer.
U	My Study Life	A planner for students designed to make study life easier to manage.
	My Study Life Pocketbook	
		life easier to manage. An app to assist with budgeting and managing

# Notes

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# South Australia A place where you can achieve extraordinary things.

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### South Australian Government Schools

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