

## Information for parents and guardians of students aged 16 & 17

Students aged 16-17 can study on adult courses at IH Aberdeen. However, please be aware that our programmes are designed for students aged 18+. All students aged 16-17 will be mixing with students aged 18 or older in their classes and social activities.

### Supervision

We do not provide 24-hour supervision for students aged 16-17. However, all students at IH Aberdeen receive a high level of support from our staff throughout their experience and, where possible, staff are made aware of any students aged 16-17.

Outside of class times and social activities, your child will not be supervised by IH Aberdeen staff. Your child will not be supervised during their free time (e.g. during lunch time, travelling between the school and host family, travelling between homestay and social excursions.)

### Homestay accommodation

If students aged 16-17 have not made their own accommodation arrangements we can offer Homestay accommodation on a half board basis.

Please note that our Homestay Hosts are fully vetted and experienced in receiving students aged 16-17 and supported by our Team to ensure the highest standards of care are maintained.

IH Aberdeen asks parents to be aware that on occasion students aged 16-17 may be placed in a Homestay with others of a similar age or older. In accordance with British Council legislation the following will be maintained:

- ✓ There will only ever be a maximum of 4 students / other guests within any one homestay
- ✓ Students will not be hosted with students of the same nationality unless express permission is given
- ✓ There will be no mixed-sex bedrooms
- ✓ There will be no bunk beds

### Curfew Times

IH Aberdeen advises parents and guardians of students aged 16-17 to set a time by which their son/daughter must be home in the evening. IH Aberdeen recommends the following times for students aged 16 – 17:

- 22:00 on Sunday –Thursday evenings
- 23:00 on Friday – Saturday evenings

You can set earlier times for your child if you prefer. However, the above-mentioned times are the latest times that IH Aberdeen can allow.

Please provide consent for this on the [Parental Consent form for under 18s](#).

## School social Programme and excursions

IH Aberdeen offers students a social programme with several social activities per week. Please be aware:

- IH Aberdeen arranges all school social activities. The social programme is designed for adult students and no special arrangements or additional supervision are provided for students 16-17.
- At least one staff member is present at any activity or excursion. The usual ratio of staff to students is: 1 IH Aberdeen staff member to 15-20 IH Aberdeen students (depending on the nature of the activity). Please note that there may be times during an activity or excursion when students are unsupervised.
- The majority of activities are suitable for students aged 16-17. If a social activity is not suitable for under 18s, we will make any students aged 16-17 aware of this and they will not be permitted to take part in the activity or excursion.
- IH Aberdeen not responsible for the actions of students while they are on an activity.

If there is any type of activity which you are NOT happy for your child to participate in, you have the opportunity to mark these activities on the Parental Consent form for under 18s.

Students are expected to arrange their own travel home after any excursion finishes. Some excursions will finish or take place in the evening. In such cases, we advise all students under 18 to return to their host family by taxi, or to return with a friend.

## Money & Expenses

Please ensure your child has enough funds to cover their stay in the UK. We recommend that students bring a **debit or credit card** to the UK to allow for emergencies.

Visa and Mastercard are widely accepted in most shops and restaurants in the UK and you can use these cards to withdraw cash at most ATMs. A PIN number is required when using your card in the UK; a signature is not sufficient.

**Lunch** is not provided by IH Aberdeen. However, there are many reasonably-priced cafes and supermarkets near the school where students can buy lunch. Homestay hosts are not expected to provide a packed lunch to students on the half board tariff, although they may allow students to prepare a packed lunch at home.

Not all homestays are walking distance from the school. Please ensure your child has enough funds to cover **public transport** in the UK.

## Travel & Transfer

On arrival in Aberdeen, we strongly recommend that all students aged 16-17, use IH Aberdeen's transfer service.

All students aged 16-17 travelling to the UK must bring with them a completed Parental Travel Consent form for under 18s, signed and dated by the student's parent or guardian.



You can download the form here. However, we will send you the form at the time of booking.

IH Aberdeen does not recommend that students aged 16-17 make their own arrangements to travel to their accommodation. However, if this is the case, we will require further consent from the student's parent or guardian.

### **Medical Care**

IH Aberdeen has First Aid qualified staff on site, Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

IH Aberdeen can help students arrange a visit to a doctor or dentist if required.

IH Aberdeen can only arrange medical treatment for a student aged 16-17, if we receive consent from the parent or guardian. Please see the '[Parental Consent Form for under 18s](#)'

### **Emergency Contact**

**If you need to contact the school in the event of an emergency, please phone on:**

- **Mon-Fri, 9am – 5-pm: +44 (0)1224 634006**
- **Outside school hours, please use the emergency number. You can call any time, 24 hours per day: +44(0)7894 708585**

