



## **Student handbook – Additional Information for students aged 16-17**

### **Emergency contact details**

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

- **Mon-Fri, 9am – 5pm: 01224 634006**
- **Outside school hours, please use the emergency number. You can call any time, 24 hours per day: 07894 708585**

### **Before and after classes**

IH Aberdeen is open Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm. You are welcome to stay in the school before or after your class, and use our computer facilities or students' room.

IH Aberdeen offers a Social Programme, with activities and excursions in the afternoons, evenings and at the weekend. If you would like to take part, please sign up at reception. In some cases, social activities will be open only to students aged 18 or over – we will inform you if this is the case.

### **Homestay**

Not all homestays are walking distance from IH Aberdeen. Please check with your homestay host to find out the correct bus number and route you should take to get to IH Aberdeen.

Please agree with your homestay host what time you must be home for dinner. Please inform your host in advance if you are going to be late.

When you receive your homestay confirmation from IH Aberdeen, we will email you a map of the city, with your homestay and travel route to the school marked on the map. Please bring this map with you.

If you have any questions or concerns about your homestay, please inform the IH Aberdeen team.

### **Safety in Aberdeen**

Aberdeen is a very safe city and problems are very rare. However, you should take a few precautions to make sure to keep safe.

### **Travelling to and from the school in the evenings**

- If you go out in the evenings, please tell your host family where you will be going and with whom.
- Please exchange mobile numbers with your homestay host and keep your phone turned on at all times.
- Tell your homestay host when you expect to be home. IH Aberdeen requires that Students aged 16-17 should return home by 22.00 on Sunday – Thursday, and by 23.00 on Friday – Saturday evenings.



- Do not go out alone in the evenings. Only go out with a group of friends and make sure that you stay together. Avoid conversations with other adults that you do not know.
- Do not walk home alone late at night. If you are travelling home later in the evening, either return to your homestay with a friend, or take a taxi.

### Taxis

- You can get a taxi at a **'taxi rank'** on the street. There are 3 main taxi ranks in Aberdeen city centre: on Back Wynd near the school, Chapel Street, and Aberdeen Station. Registered taxis have a white sign on top of the car with 'TAXI' written on it and an identification plate at the front and back of the car. Don't get into a car that doesn't have these identification signs.
- You can also book a **private taxi** by phone. Private taxis also have identification plates on the front and back of the car. Some trusted taxi companies are:
  - **Com Cab: 01224 353535**
  - **Rainbow Taxis: 01224 878787**
- You should **only** take a taxi from a taxi rank or a taxi that you have ordered by phone. Do not wave for a taxi on the street or get into any car that stops for you on the street.
- If you are **waiting for a taxi**, make sure a friend waits with you and ensures that you depart safely.

### UK laws

- You are not allowed to buy cigarettes or alcohol if you are under 18 years old
- You are not allowed to enter a pub, bar or club if you are under 18.
- It is illegal to use, buy or sell all soft/ hard/ non-prescribed drugs. If someone offers you drugs, just say 'no'!
- It is illegal to use false or borrowed ID

