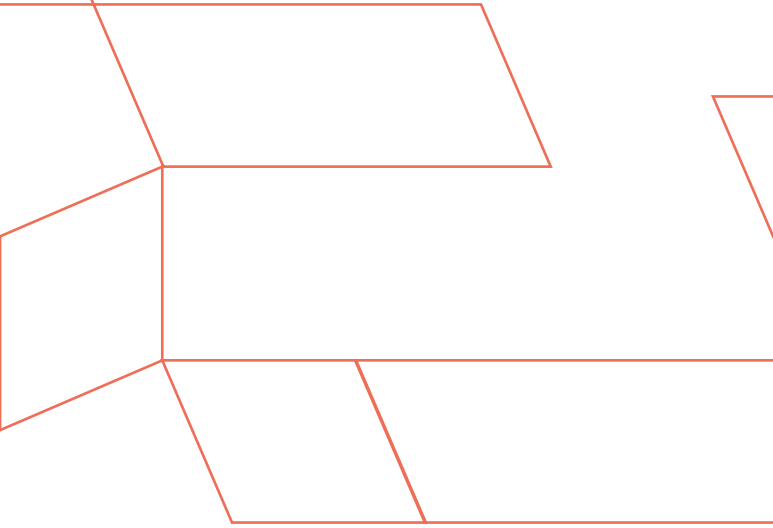


Homestay Accommodation

Here at New College Durham we
have lots of international students
who choose a homestay option.



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You will be treated like a family member during your stay. You will be fully involved with the local lifestyle. Your homestay family will advise and support you as you learn to find your way around a new city and a new culture and will advise and help you if you have any questions or problems during your stay. It is just like having family here.

For £180 per week a homestay will provide the following:

- Your own room and space to study (this may be in your room or in another part of the home)
- Breakfast each day – continental breakfast
- Home cooked evening meal and weekend lunches
- Laundry facilities – some families may do this for you and some will show you the facilities for you to do your own laundry
- Daily snacks such as bread, cheese and fruit
- Bedding and towels
- Wi-Fi Internet - this is provided for the use of study and making contact with your family back home, for example via Skype
- Moral support, local knowledge and the chance to experience life with a family from another culture.

Your homestay will not provide:

- Weekday lunches – these are your responsibility
- Personal items such as toiletries and clothes
- Travel expenses
- Regular meals for your friends; we encourage homestay providers to welcome your friends over and occasionally have one friend for tea, but you should discuss this with your hosts.



Where will I be living?

Families need to live within a one hour commute of New College Durham. Location is chosen based on travel time and not mileage from the College.

How will I get to college?

There are two bus companies that operate around the North-East. Arriva tickets start from £5.50 daily or £22 weekly for students. Go North East bus tickets start from £4.50 daily or £17 weekly for students. (With valid student ID – this can be ordered via the college's student union office.)

What to expect from a homestay experience?

Homestay families come in all shapes and sizes and from a variety of backgrounds. What is typical about the families we use is that they are all happy families who want to host students. They have warm, caring homes and are able to offer the support, encouragement and guidance to their students to ensure they get the most out of their stay in Durham. No more than four students will be accommodated in any one homestay.

This experience is not designed to replace your family at home but you will be treated as part of the family while you are here and may be asked to help around the home, for example, washing the dishes after dinner.

You will be living in England and will be expected to respect the changes in culture you will be experiencing.

You will also be expected to communicate with your family and be prepared for your family to ask about your whereabouts. Your homestay family has a responsibility for your welfare and it is therefore their responsibility to ensure you are safe.

Your homestay family will also be communicating with your parents/guardians to ensure that your best interests are met.

Homestay Application Process

All students will complete an "All About You" questionnaire. It is vital that all sections are completed with as much information as possible. A member of the College will talk through your accommodation requirements.

Medical information is requested and it is extremely important all information is declared. Any information will be treated confidentially and sensitively. We will try and find families who can support students with medical issues.

In order to ensure you have the best experience possible, we take great care in ensuring the best match is made to meet your needs. Knowing any additional information in advance can allow us to work with the homestay provider to ensure the right support is put in place before you arrive.

Once we have all this information, we will proceed to try and match you with the most suitable family.

You will receive your homestay profile as soon as possible but at the latest 2 weeks before you are due to arrive in the UK.

Please ensure you have given us an email address you will be able to access at all times.

Once you receive your profile, we suggest you make contact with your family and start getting to know them, either by email or Skype.

What will my room be like?

All homestay homes are checked to ensure that they provide:

A bed – either a single or double bed.

Storage – there will be space to store your clothes in either a wardrobe, a chest of drawers, shelving or a combination of these.

Study space – if you do not have a study desk space in your bedroom then there will be a large dining table in the home which provides you with adequate study space.

WIFI – all families must have WIFI and this will be accessible in your bedroom. Please respect the use of the WIFI and not use it for excessive downloading, streaming or gaming.

Bathroom – there is no guarantee of a private bathroom, however, if you don't have a private bathroom you will have access to a family bathroom.

Size – All families have a mix of sized bedrooms. We can guarantee that the room will be big enough for your bed, storage of clothes and meets government regulations.

You will always have access to other areas of the home such as the living room, dining room and some homes may have conservatories.

The College will support you in negotiating with your family to find solutions to any storage issues.



Can my homestay parents ask me what I'm doing?

Yes. Whilst your family won't be replacing your parents/guardians in a "loco parentis" capacity, they will have a legal responsibility for your welfare whilst you are here.

Families receive information on Safeguarding and sign an agreement to ensure that these rules are adhered to. The main key adults that will be responsible for your welfare during your stay will have undergone Police checks in line with the new OFSTED regulations.

Whilst you are not expected to give every single detail, your homestay family will ask for simple information like; Where you are going? Who with? What time will you be back? How are you getting there? They also need to know these things for meal preparations etc.

We always recommend that you share mobile numbers with your family. Please do keep in touch with them. They will be treating you like one of their own children and will be concerned for your welfare.

The background features a series of thin, orange, parallel lines that create a sense of depth and perspective, resembling a grid or architectural structure. These lines are arranged in a way that they appear to recede into the distance, creating a 3D effect.

**LET'S
GET
YOU
THERE**