

GISS Homestay Program

The International Student program at Gulf Islands Secondary School is growing rapidly each semester. We have 75 students enrolled at GISS, SIMS, SSE and Pender Island School for the current school year. These international students come from Japan, Brazil, Iceland, Austria, Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan, Germany, Mexico, the Slovak Republik and China. Next year we are expecting students also from Brazil, Italy and possibly Columbia. We are looking to collect a database of families that are interested in providing a quality homestay experience for these students.

Homestay parents are not just landlords; they are the international student's family while in Canada. Students are expected to conform to the normal rules of family life and to contribute to the routine operation of the household.

Homestays are required to provide a private bedroom for the student, and if possible, their own bathroom. Homestay families are also required to make sure that students have transportation to and from school and school related activities. Other than that, we ask that you treat the student as if they were your own child, providing them with three nutritional meals per day. The students pay a \$700 per month homestay fee, which is given to the homestay families so they can provide such necessities. (*short term students {students here for less than one month} pay on average \$25 per day per student, and prefer to be placed in pairs if possible.)

If you are interested in hosting a student and would like more information – please fill in the form below and send it to the International Education Department by fax, email, mail, or deliver by hand.

Please note, before being accepted as a homestay family an interview with a home visit and Criminal Record Check will be required.

Family Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

We are interested in hosting a student (you may pick more than one preference)

- We are ready for a student as of _____ or NOW _____
- Emergency Homestay (short term or long term depending on situation)
- January
- Summer School (usually for three weeks in July and/or August – students are placed in pairs).

We would like to host

- A girl
- A boy
- Two students ___girls ___boys ___ brother/sister

Country of Preference (you may pick more than one preference)

- No Preference
- Asia _____ (name country if you have a preference)
- Mexico and South America _____ (name country if you have a preference_
- Europe _____ (name country if you have a preference)
- Other: _____

Age preference (you may pick more than one preference)

- Grade 6/7/8 SIMS
- Grade 9/10
- Grade 11/12

Time Frame

- 3 months
- 5 months (1st semester or 2nd semester)
- Full year

Please Return to:

Sheri Wakefield

112 Rainbow Road, SSI V8K 2K3

FAX: 537-1869 Email: swakefield@sd64.bc.ca