

Staying with a Host Family & Meals 2017

We welcome an international group of students, whose primary aim is to improve their French – they are assured of a warm welcome with local French families, who treat them like part of the family. Each family hosts between **2 and 5 students**, and students will usually be expected to share a room with another student (of the same gender, obviously! There is a € 50 supplement for a single room). As far as possible we try to place students with those of a similar age and interests, and in families where we think they will have a good time.

We expect students to fit in with the family as far as is reasonable – staying in a host family is an important part of our programme, giving students a chance to practise what they have learnt in an informal setting, and it is usually a very happy experience – but the following guidelines should help students to clarify areas of uncertainty:

Speaking French

The host family welcomes the students into their family, and gives them as many opportunities as possible to speak in French, and the students should try their best to speak only French, even with fellow students of the same mother tongue, as it is considered rude to speak a foreign language in front of people who do not understand it.

Meals

The host family provides breakfast and a cooked dinner. The students are expected to share the evening meal with the family. Should a student, as an exception, wish to have a meal at another student's house they must discuss this first with their own host family, who will then contact the other host family if appropriate. Lunches during the week are in the school canteen, where nutritious balanced vegetarian meals are made, mostly using organic and locally sourced fresh ingredients.

Afternoons & Evenings

The host family is responsible for the students outside of the course times, and a responsible adult is expected to be at home when the students return from their activities. Students are invited to share in the family's afternoon and evening activities. If they wish to meet up with fellow students they might be given a lift by the host family (or be collected in the evening – all within reasonable distances), but should not expect to do this every day. If they are going out without the family, students must talk to their host family first about where they wish to go and when and how they will return (be aware of French public transport and its limitations!)

All students are asked to be at home in the evenings by 10.30 pm on weekdays, and by 11 pm, at the latest, on Friday and Saturday. It is vital that all students and families keep to this arrangement and have clear arrangements for contacting each other. (Students should carry the home number and mobile number (if applicable) of the host family – host families should have student mobile phone numbers for emergencies).

Transport

Students will be collected on arrival from the train station in Avignon (either the central station or the TGV express train station) and driven to the station on departure.

The host family provides transport to and from school.