



Citipointe Christian College  
International

Dear International Student

We are pleased that you have chosen to study at our school and are looking forward to meeting you.

We hope that the following information will help you and give a general idea of what to expect and what is expected of you during your time with us. You will receive more detailed information when you arrive.

### **Weather and Climate**

In Australia we have 4 seasons and they are grouped the following way:

**Summer:** December, January & February. They are the hottest months with high temperatures and humidity. The average temperature on most summer days is 31-33°C but temperatures can reach as high as 40-45°C.

**Autumn:** March, April & May. During these months the temperatures start dropping and the sun sets earlier than in the summer months.

**Winter:** June, July & August. These are the coldest months with temperatures between 11 - 21°C. Early mornings and nights can be cold.

**Spring:** September, October & November. The spring climate is similar to autumn, with average temperatures between 15 - 25°C.

When packing your bag, take this into consideration. Students going into homestay can bring one large suitcase or two small suitcases only. Do not bring a bag that is too heavy for you to lift.



## **Australian Law for under 18 year olds**

It is illegal for anyone under 18 years of age to purchase or drink alcohol and to purchase cigarettes or smoke in Australia. It is illegal for people of all ages to purchase or use drugs.

## **Beach Safety**

We have many beautiful beaches in Australia, but swimming in the ocean can be dangerous. Please always swim between the flags on a patrolled beach and never swim alone.



## **Emergency**

In an emergency call the homestay coordinator: 0412 30 4375.  
For emergency services (fire, police, ambulance) dial 000.

## **Mobile phones & Electronic Devices**

Every student in homestay should have a mobile phone with an Australian phone number. You must keep the Homestay Emergency Number (0412 304 375) in your phone. You should have your mobile phone switched on at all times, except at bedtime.

Mobile phones should be used in moderation and it is not appropriate for a you to use a mobile phone at the dinner table, or anywhere in the presence of your homestay family.

It is important for your health and study that you sleep well every night therefore you are not permitted to have any electronic devices in your room after bedtime. All your electronic devices (phones, iPad, iPod, computer) should be given to your homestay parents at bedtime, kept in the homestay parents' bedroom overnight and returned to you each morning.



## **Tattoos and Piercings**

You are not permitted to have tattoos or body piercings. Girls may wear one small stud or sleeper in each ear lobe. Boys may not have any piercings.

## **Food**

Australians tend to eat three meals a day:

**Breakfast:** The first meal of the day. It is either light and cold (cereal, toast, coffee) or heavy and hot (bacon, eggs, sausages, fried tomato).

**Lunch:** Usually eaten between 12 – 2pm and is usually a light meal. Some examples of lunch meals would be a sandwich or a salad. However, Australians also enjoy lunch meals such as a curry, noodles, sushi or pizza.

**Dinner:** The main meal of the day is eaten in the evening.

Outdoor eating is a favourite for many Australians. A BBQ or picnic is a typical 'Aussie' way to enjoy a weekend meal. Most homes have a BBQ and BBQs are readily available in most parks and beaches.

Your host family will also pack morning tea and lunch for you on school days. Morning tea may include things like fruit, vegetable sticks, biscuits, sandwiches or wraps. On school days, morning tea break is from 10.40am to 11.20am. Lunch break is from 12.40pm – 1.20pm.

Australian food will be different from what you are used to and we encourage you to try new foods. If there is something you do not like, please tell your homestay. They will not be offended if you tell them politely. Your homestay may cook a large meal and freeze a portion of it and then reheat it for you for lunch or dinner. Freezing food and reheating is common practice in our culture. Frozen food is not unhealthy or unsafe.



## **Church**

You will attend church with your host family every Sunday and may also attend youth group and other church activities. This is a great opportunity for you to make new friends and improve listening skills. Listening to a sermon is excellent listening practice and you can talk over the main points of the preacher's message after the service with your homestay. This is an excellent way to help you develop listening and comprehension skills. Don't use your mobile phone in church.

## **Internet**

You are responsible for your own internet costs/usage and the homestay may not give you access to their Wi-Fi. When you arrive you should purchase a pre-paid wireless internet package.

## **Homestay will provide**

Homestay fees cover accommodation, food and supervision. You are responsible for all other expenses such as medical, dental, transport, phone, internet.

You will have your own bedroom and the homestay will provide all meals, linen and basic toiletries such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, toilet paper and tissues. If you need any special products, you should purchase them yourself. The homestay will wash and iron your clothes.

## **Homestay Interaction**

The homestay is excited about your arrival and is looking forward to meeting you. They are happy to help you with your homework and like to spend time talking with you. The more time you spend speaking with your host family, the quicker your English will improve. Do not spend long periods of time alone in your bedroom. Join in on family activities and outings. Remember to make eye contact and smile when you are speaking with someone.

## **Arrival**

If you require airport pick up when you arrive, please let me know and I will meet you at the airport. Once you have cleared customs and exit through the glass sliding doors, please look out for me. I will be holding a sign with your name on it. I will then drive you to your homestay family and help settle you in.

We look forward to meeting you.

Kind Regards

*Mrs Hayley Jakins*



### ***Homestay Coordinator***

*International College Room IC9  
322 Wecker Road Carindale 4152  
3347 5929 / 0412 304 375*

[homestay@citipointe.qld.edu.au](mailto:homestay@citipointe.qld.edu.au)

Citipointe Christian College International  
Academic rigour - Christian values