



Coleg Gŵyr Abertawe
Gower College Swansea

Homestay guide for students

Gower College Swansea take your safety, well-being and happiness very seriously. We place all our 16 – 18-year-old students with one of our carefully selected and approved host families for the duration of your studies.

What is homestay?

Homestay accommodation allows you to feel part of a family and will help you integrate into life in the United Kingdom (UK). Living with one of our homestay families will enable you to improve your English and experience British culture in a comfortable environment.

What does homestay cover?

You will have your own bedroom, with storage, study space and WIFI, with breakfast and evening meals provided each day. Your host will provide you with your own key to the house. Your homestay host will wash your clothing and you will be provided with clean bedding and towels every week.

Who provides homestay?

The host family could be a couple or an individual, some have children and some have pets. Each host has a profile which will include details of their profession, family, interests and location. Their profile will be sent to you and we will send your application form to the family. You should include as much information about yourself on your application form to help us in the matching process. Once placed, it is important that you make contact with your host before the start of term.

Many of our hosts are very experienced and have enjoyed sharing their homes with students from all over the world and they often keep in touch with each other for many years. Host families provide a vital link between you, the College and your family at home, and will assist you in gaining your independence and social skills needed for life at College and university in the UK.

After settling in, you and your host family will go through a Homestay Agreement Form, stating the roles and responsibilities of the family, yourself and the College which will be signed by all parties. These are important for everyone as you settle into your new environment.

Wellbeing, health and support

When you arrive at College you will be given a letter from the International Office for you to register with a doctor. If you become ill whilst in College, we have a Student Health Advisor on campus and there are also first aiders in the International Office.

The International team are always available to help you with any issue that is worrying you, whether it is about homestay, studies, illness or general day to day matters. Your safety, academic success and happiness is our priority.

Here are some comments from our hosts:

“Being a host is a very rewarding undertaking. It's nice to give a home to young people from overseas who may be away from home for the first time”, Sue Morris.

“We like to provide a home from home environment and ensure that our homestay guest feels part of our family during their stay. We enjoy learning about their country and culture whilst passing on our knowledge and experience of the UK and especially Wales”, Sue Dinnage.

Useful contacts:

Gower College Swansea

International Office: 01792 284 007

International Office (out of hours / urgent matters): 07463 69995