Rotary International District 9600 Limited

ACN: 125 588 696

YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Student Agreement

Program Rules

In your application for the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, you signed an agreement to follow the rules and conditions which were set out in the application form. These rules apply in every Rotary District all over the world. Rotary International recommends that Districts adapt the rules to suit local conditions. The agreement which follows contains the rules and conditions for exchange in District 9600, which have been established for your safety and well-being. Violation of any of these rules may result in dismissal from the program and your immediate return home, at your own expense. You and your parents are asked to sign this agreement to acknowledge your commitment for a full twelve months to the Youth Exchange Program, to your host Rotary Club and District 9600, to your host families, and to your school in Australia. Please read these rules very carefully, and sign them only if you agree to follow them. **If you are not prepared to sign this agreement, and abide by the rules, you should withdraw your application from consideration by Rotary District 9600.**

Agreement

I, …….., agree that:
Student's Name

1. **Rotary District 9600** has established rules and conditions for my safety and well-being while I am a participant in the Youth Exchange Program. Violation of any of these rules may result in my dismissal from the program and my immediate return home, at my own expense.

2. **Ambassador**:
   - I will serve as an Ambassador for my family, my sponsoring Rotary Club, Rotary International and my country.
   - I will be friendly, and show interest in Australian life, and adjust to and be involved in the activities of my host family, my host Club, District 9600, and my school.
   - I will maintain a high standard of dress, grooming, behaviour and personal hygiene at all times.
   - I agree that Rotary commitments take precedence over other activities.

3. **Laws of the country:** I will obey the laws of Queensland and Australia.

4. **Authority:**
   - I will be under the authority of Rotary District 9600 while I am an exchange student and I will abide by these rules and conditions of exchange.
   - My parents or legal guardians will not authorize any extra activities directly to me.
   - Any relatives I may have in Australia will have no authority over me while I am a member of the Youth Exchange Program.

5. **Drugs:** I will not use drugs, except for valid medical reasons. Use of illegal drugs will result in my immediate return home.

6. **Driving:** I will not operate any motorized vehicle, including but not limited to cars, trucks, motorcycles, aircraft, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, boats, and other watercraft.

7. **Drinking:** I will not drink alcohol except in moderation in a home environment and under the direct supervision of my host parents or Rotarians.

8. **Dating:** I will not form a steady and serious romantic attachment. I understand that sexual activities will result in my immediate return home.

9. **Disfigurement:**

- I agree that I will not radically change the colour, style or cut of my hair, or have any part of my body pierced during my Exchange Year.
- If I have piercing (other than ears) before my arrival, I will remove any stud/ring, which is visible.
- I understand that jewellery is generally not allowed in school, and that tattoos are forbidden.

8. **Smoking:**
   - I understand that Queensland has very strict laws governing smoking in public, and that smoking is often socially unacceptable, and discouraged.
   - I will respect the preferences of my host families and of the members of my host Rotary Club.
   - If I indicated that I was a non-smoker on my Application Form, I will not take up the habit during my Exchange Year.

9. **Travel:**
   - I will not travel outside the area of District 9600 unless I am accompanied by an adult, and unless I have permission from my host parents, Club Counsellor, and the District 9600 YEP Chairman. I will apply to the Chairman for permission to travel before I leave, and his decision will be final.
   - I understand that excessive travel is not allowed.
   - I understand that my host parents are under no obligation to provide local transport for me, and that I should use public transport wherever possible.
   - If I am offered an opportunity to go on a trip or attend an event, I will make sure I understand any costs I must pay and my responsibilities before I go.

10. **Insurance:**
    - I will be covered by health, medical, accident and travel insurance acceptable to District 9600. The arrangements for this will be finalized before I arrive in Australia.
    - I will not participate in dangerous activities such as hang-gliding, parachute-jumping, skydiving, and bungee jumping. I will not travel in a motorized or non-motorized glider, or ultralight plane.

11. **School:**
    - I will attend all classes and take part in all normal school activities, including exams, as a full-time student at a school arranged by my Host Club.
    - I will make an honest attempt to succeed.
    - I understand that school is the basis of my exchange visa: **no school, no visa, and no exchange!**

12. **Host Families:**
    - I will respect the members of my host families, and the wishes of my host parents.
    - I will not act as a guest, but make genuine effort to become an integral part of the host family, and assume duties and responsibilities normal for a student of my age or for children in the family.
    - I will adapt to the family: I understand that the family is not expected to adapt to me. I will keep my room tidy.

13. **Telephone/Internet:**
    - I will seek permission to make all phone calls. I understand that I must pay for all international calls and Internet access.

14. **Language:** I will make every effort to learn English, and may be responsible for any costs for tutoring, language camps, or other instruction.

15. **Rotary Events:** I will attend regular Rotary meetings, Rotary-sponsored events and host family events, and show an interest in these activities.
    - I will volunteer to be involved without waiting to be asked.
    - I acknowledge that a lack of interest on my part is detrimental to my exchange and can have a negative impact on future exchanges.

16. **My Finances:**
    - I acknowledge that I must have sufficient financial support to assure my well-being during my exchange.
    - I will arrange for AUD $500 to be paid into an Australian bank account as a contingency fund for emergencies. As this fund is depleted, it will be replenished by my parents or guardian. I understand that unused funds at the end of the exchange year will be returned to me.

- I will arrange for all fees required by District 9600 (including Medibank Private Overseas Student Health Cover) to be paid before I arrive in Australia.
- I understand that I will be paid a monthly allowance by my host Rotary Club in recognition of my service as an ambassador for the program, Rotary and my country.

17. **Work:** I understand that I am not permitted to do any paid full-time, part-time or casual work while I am on exchange.

18. **Statements on my Application Form:** I acknowledge that I am bound by the statements I made on my application form, that false statements are unacceptable and may have serious consequences for me.

19. **Visits by parents and friends:**
    - I acknowledge that visits by parents and friends from my home country are discouraged. I acknowledge that my parents or friends should not visit me in the first six months, the last month, during the school term, nor at Christmas or New Year, and that they should not expect to spend more than 10 days with me.
    - I acknowledge that I must attend all compulsory District activities, regardless of whether my parents are visiting or not. I will not be permitted to travel around Australia with them and I will not be permitted to return home before my exchange is complete.
    - I will not expect my host family to accommodate my family or friends.

20. **Return:** I will return directly to my home country by a route mutually agreeable to District 9600 and my parents or guardian. I, or my parents or guardian will pay any costs related to an early return home.

…….	…….	……
Signature	Student's Name	Date
……	…….	……
Signature	Mother's/Guardian's Name	Date
…….. ……..	…….	
Signature	Father's/Guardian's Name	Date