

Together We Learn



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**

International Education



NEW HOMESTAY PARENT ORIENTATION





WELCOME



Administration & Support Staff



Raquel Steen
Assistant Superintendent



Steve Cann
District Principal
International Education



Violeta Malfair
District Principal
International Education
& Welcome Centre

Administrative Assistants

Heather Oishi
Julie Melia
Alisha Trethewey

ELL Support Teachers

GESS	Daphne Brown
KSS	Nicki Graham & Lana Skelton
OKM	Lynn Simpson
MBSS	Darren Pendergast & Derek Smith
RSS	Julie Marks & Elizabeth Baerg



Homestay Coordinators



Lori McPhail
MBSS CNB GMS



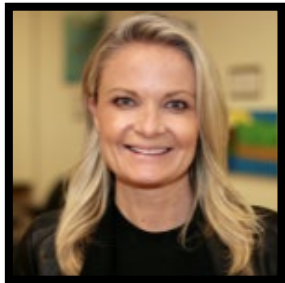
Wendy BurrIDGE
RSS RMS SVM



Scott Kocil
KSS DRK KLO GESS



Masao Matsubara
OKM CFM



Karlee Sieben
Activities Coordinator



Nathalie Messent
Relief Homestay Coordinator
All Zones



24 HOUR EMERGENCY NUMBER

250-801-5684



Role of Homestay Coordinators

- Place students with homestay families
- Support students in homestay program
- Liaise with international team, school, homestay & agents
- Host weekly school meetings with students
- Chaperone International activities & optional trips
- Manage homestay program
- Regularly update homestay database
- Conduct student and host family surveys



Homestay coordinators meet weekly at schools with students



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**
International Education



Our Partnerships

The Central Okanagan Public Schools International Program is accredited by the British Columbia Ministry of Education. The Central Okanagan Public Schools International Program is a member of the following professional associations





International Education in Canada

- 494,525 international students in Canada
- 71,350 in secondary, middle, elementary
- 24% in British Columbia
- \$12.8 billion contribution to Canada's GDP
- 450 in Central Okanagan Public Schools

Figure 3: Regional origin of international students in Canada (2017)

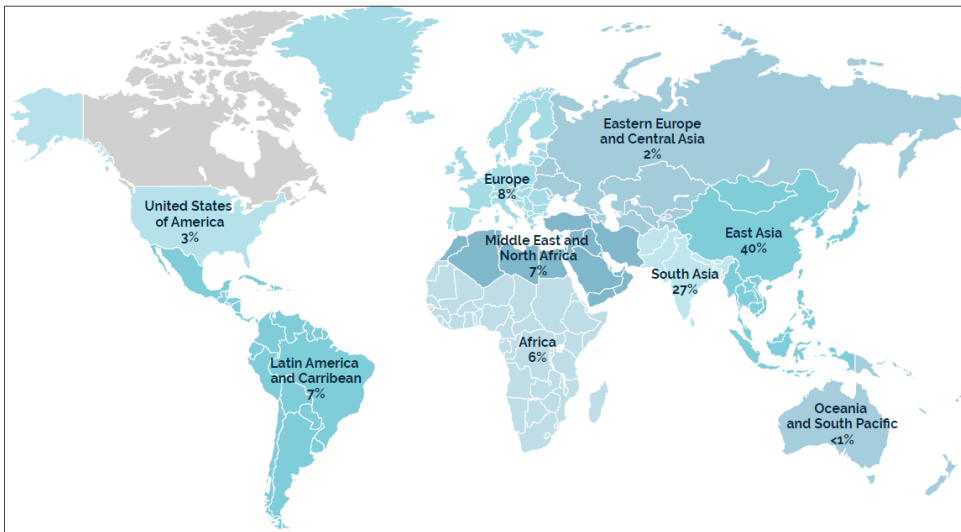
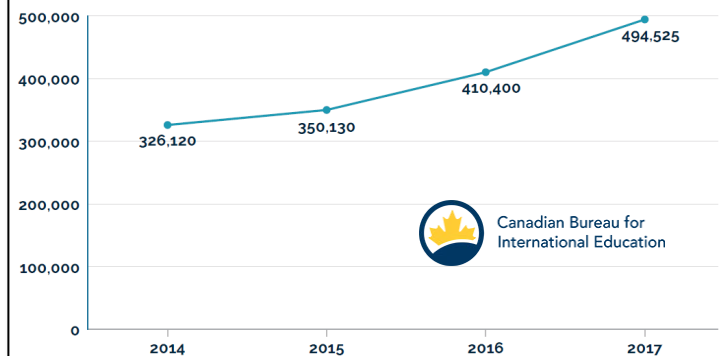


Figure 1: International students in Canada by year, all levels of study (2014-2017)



Graphics & statistics:

Canadian Bureau for International Education 2018 Report
Global Affairs Canada Economic Impact of international Education
in Canada 2017 Update



Approximately 500 students from 30+ different countries



Why Students Choose Central Okanagan Public Schools?

- *Quality Education*
- *Safe Community*
- *Moderate Climate*
- *Active Lifestyle*
- *98% English Speaking*
- *Canadian Experience*
- *Welcoming Community*
- *Amazing Homestay Families!!!!*



A graphic featuring a large yellow five-pointed star with a white outline. To the left of the star are two green leaves, one above the other, with a yellow highlight on the lower leaf. To the right of the star is a red maple leaf. The entire graphic is set against a white background.

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Our Programs

- ∅ Language & Cultural Experience
- ∅ Academic Experience
- ∅ BC Graduation
 - ▶ Full Year (10 months)
 - ▶ Semester (5 months)
 - ▶ Short Term (3 months or other)
 - ▶ Graduation (multiple years)



Importance of Homestay

Homestay is the  of our Program.

A **HOME** away from home

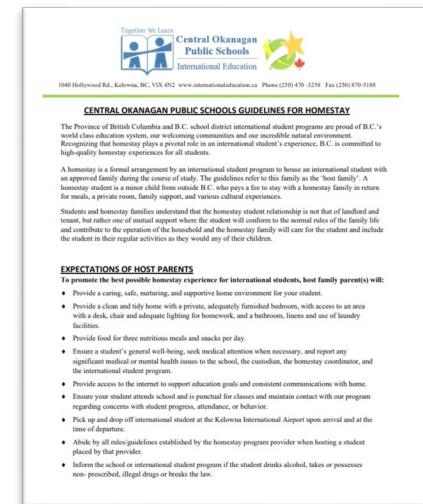
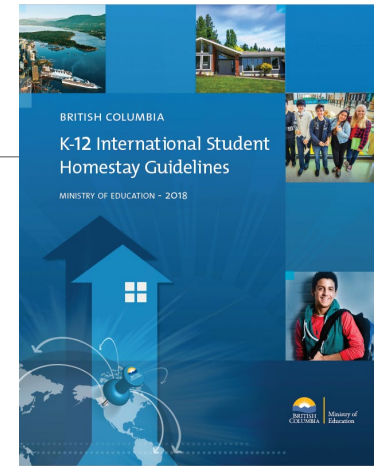
- Parents from around the world entrust the safety and well-being of their children
- Welcoming families embracing students as their own family members.
- Family environment for authentic cultural and language learning





Homestay Guidelines

- Abide by all rules /guidelines established by the program
- Be 25 years old or older
- Agree to scheduled in-home inspections and criminal record checks
- Have no more than 2 international students
- Provide food for 3 nutritious meals per day
- Provide a clean and tidy home with a private, furnished bedroom
- Ensure the house is safe and complies with building bylaws
- Ensure the home and auto insurance are adequate



https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/internationaleducation/home_stay_guidelines.pdf

Host Parent Responsibilities

1. Provide a caring, nurturing and supportive home environment
2. Provide regular, nutritious meals and snacks
3. Monitor and support the physical and emotional well-being of student.
4. Assist in seeking medical attention when necessary.
5. Monitor school engagement, absences and punctuality
6. Maintain contact with school/program concerning student progress
7. Promote strong connections between student, parents, schools and communities
8. Communicate with homestay coordinator regarding issues, safety & medical concerns, overnight travel outside of city limits
9. Inform the program if student uses drugs or alcohol or breaks the law



Communication is KEY to a
successful program



IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS



- ✓ Freedom of belief (religious, political, gender, etc.)
- ✓ Students are not to take driving lessons or drive while in our program
- ✓ No riding with an “L” drivers.
- ✓ No riding with “N” drivers to school functions during school hours.
- ✓ Check your email daily and our website periodically
- ✓ Homestay commitment is until June 30 . Please do not invite students to stay past June 30.
- ✓ Student can be moved without notice by our program at any time. However, we strive to resolve and mediate issues prior to moving students unless it is an emergency
- ✓ Cannot host for other schools, programs or agencies while hosting a SD23 student
- ✓ Inform Home Insurance that a non-family member is living in your home

Compensation



Full Month

The monthly compensation rate for hosting a student is \$1000 for a full month.

\$1100 per month starting Sept. 2023

Partial Months

Partial months are pro-rated at a rate of \$34 per day. (\$37 per day for 2023/24)

Partial months are most common during

- Arrivals
- Departures
- Student homestay moves

Method of Payment:

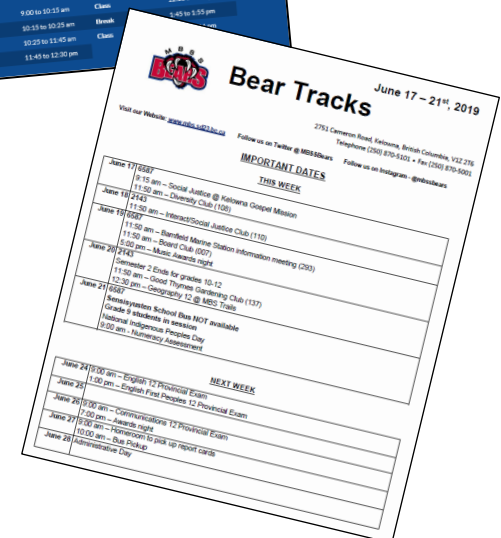
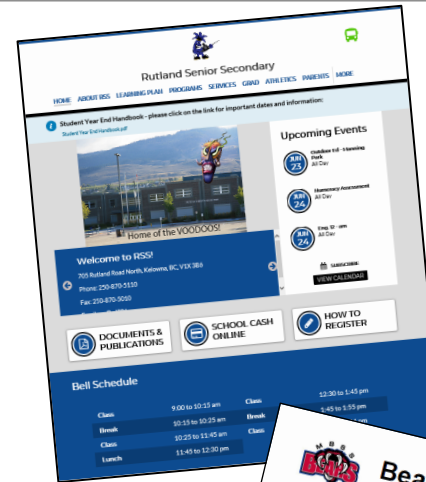
Direct Deposit payments made at the end of the month.



School Support



- International Teachers
 - School ELL Teachers
 - School Counsellors
 - School Administrators
 - Classroom Teachers
-
- Weekly emails from school
 - School Website - calendar





Maintain contact with school and our program concerning student progress

■ Communicate with Homestay Coordinator regarding any issues with students

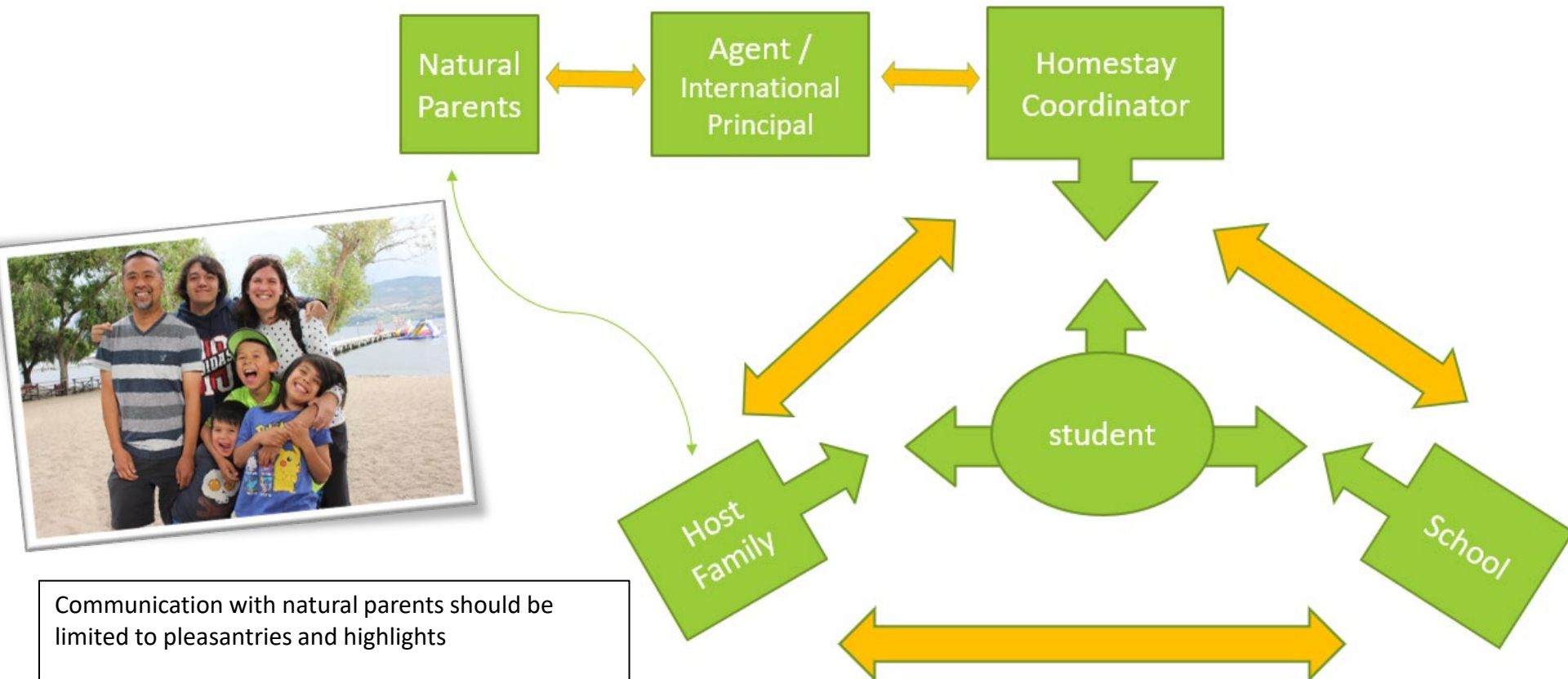
- Failure to attend school
- Emotional issues
- Use of alcohol, drugs or smoking
- Ongoing behavior issues
- Illness that requires medical attention



“What do I need to do to reassure myself that it is a safe situation?”



Key to a Quality Program Communication

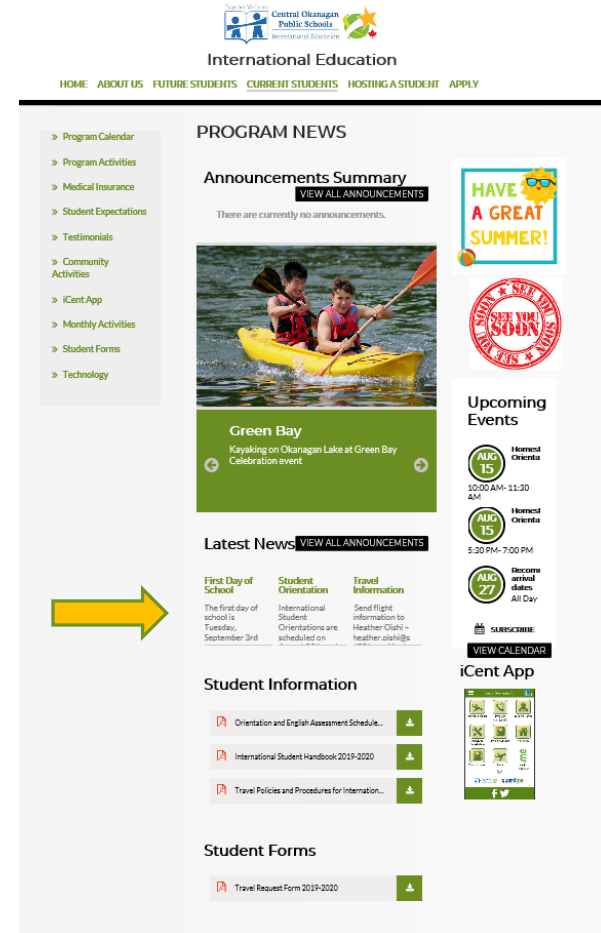
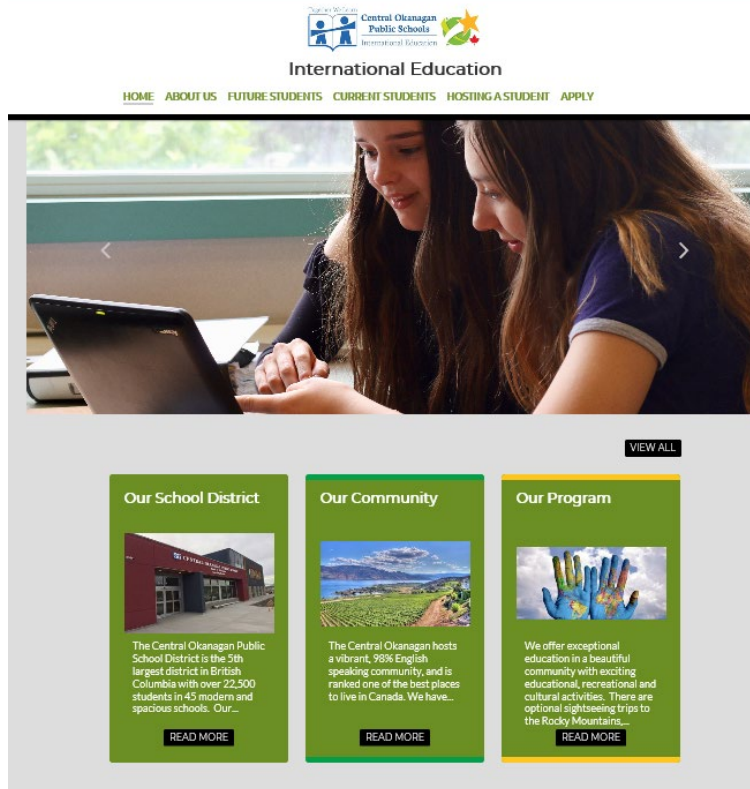


Communication with natural parents should be limited to pleasantries and highlights

If a Natural Parent contacts you with a concern;
Politely advise the natural parent to contact their agent
Let your Homestay Coordinator know of the situation



International Website



24 HOUR EMERGENCY NUMBER 250-801-5684

Medical – How students are covered

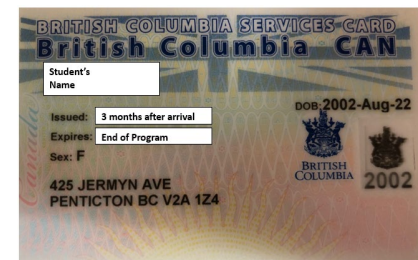
All new students begin with full Study Insured coverage

studyinsured™

Students with a study permit (staying 10 months or longer) will also be covered by BC Medical

studyinsured™

- 3 month waiting period
- Study Insured becomes extended health insurance once BC medical is in place



studyinsured™

Payment of services covered by Study Insured

Method 1: No payment required

Use the Virtual Health Service
1.866.883.9787



studyinsured™

VIRTUAL HEALTH SERVICE

connect to a licensed doctor over secure video chat

call **StudyInsured™ Assistance** to set up your appointment:

1.866.883.9787

- FREE for all StudyInsured™ students
- prescriptions and referrals via email
- 7 days a week
- doctors licensed across Canada

Go to a Medical Clinic with
direct billing

Name	Address
Kelowna General Hospital	2268 Pandosy St
Orchard Medical Centre	1990 Cooper Road
West Kelowna Medical Centre	105-2231 Louie Drive
Lyte Medical (Inside Wal-Mart)	1555 Banks Rd
Academy Hill Medical Clinic	975 Academy Hill Way #109
Turtle Bay Medical Clinic	802-11850 Oceola Rd
Whitefoot Medical Clinic-Big White Ski Resort	5375 Big White Rd

studyinsured™

Payment of services covered by Study Insured

Method 2: Payment required at clinic without direct billing

Pay at clinic

Submit online [Claim Form](#) and receipts.

Step by step instructions on International Education [Website](#)

The screenshot shows the Study Insured website interface. At the top, there are logos for 'Together We Learn Central Okanagan Public Schools International Education' and 'studyinsured™'. Below the logos is a navigation bar with links: Home, Products, Services, Resources, and Contact. The main content area is titled 'Online Claim Form'. On the left, there is a sidebar with links: 'Submit a Claim', 'How to Submit a Claim', and 'Download Claims Form'. The main content area contains a 'Submit Claim' section with a form to fill out. The form includes fields for 'Policy + Group + ID Numbers', 'First Name', and 'Last Name'. There is also a section for 'Applicant Information'.

The screenshot shows the Study Insured website interface, specifically the 'Medical Insurance' section. At the top, there are logos for 'Together We Learn Central Okanagan Public Schools International Education' and 'studyinsured™'. Below the logos is a navigation bar with links: HOME, INFORMATION, STUDENTS, CONSULTANTS, HOMESTAY, APPLY, COMMUNITIES, and CONTACT. The main content area is titled 'Medical Insurance'. Below this title is a large image of two people in a body of water, one of whom is holding a star. The text below the image reads: 'Medical Insurance' and 'How students are covered'. The text explains that students registered in the Central Okanagan Public Schools International Program will receive medical insurance through Study Insured. It also mentions that the medical insurance package provides comprehensive medical coverage. For detailed coverage information and claim forms, users are referred to brochures or the Study Insured Website. All new students begin with full Study Insured coverage. Students with a study permit (staying 10 months or longer) will also be covered by BC Medical. A list of conditions is provided: 3 month waiting period, and Study Insured becomes extended health insurance once BC medical is in place. Below this, there is a section titled 'How to Submit a Claim to Study Insured' and 'Claims under \$500'. The text explains that if a claim is under \$500, users may not need to submit a claim form. They can just email studentclaims@studyinsured.com. In their email, they should include the following: Full legal name, Study Insured Policy number, Copies of their receipts, invoices, referrals (scan or photograph attached to email), Any other supporting medical documents that they were provided ex: medical notes, reports, etc. (scan or photograph attached to email), and Full mailing address.



MENTAL WELLNESS PHONE LINE

FREE - PRIVATE - INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS - AVAILABLE 24/7

WE'RE HERE TO LISTEN.



Life is a struggle sometimes—and that's okay. Call the mental wellness phone line to connect with a counsellor who will offer support and guidance.

- **FREE** and available 24/7, day or night
- Available in over 180 languages
- Video chat and in-person counselling, where available
- **100% private and confidential:** your conversation is private between you and your counsellor, and will not be reported to your insurance company, your school, or your parents

Travel Policies

Families are encouraged to include student in family vacation plans

- Host family should provide accommodation, meals and transportation (excluding air travel) Please have a conversation with your student in advance if additional cost are required
- Student provide cost of activities and spending money
- Confirm that student has necessary travel documents needed if traveling to another country (Visa or ESTA)



Travel With Host Families

Travel within BC

- Email the homestay coordinator with details of any overnight trips including dates, destination and contact information.
- Contact the school to excuse your student from school

Travel outside of BC

- Submit a completed **Travel Request Form**. This form includes a section that requires a signature of the natural parent(s).
- Completed travel forms must be submitted to Homestay Coordinator.
- Travel by airplane must be **pre-approved** prior to booking flights
- Contact the school to excuse your student from school during the trip.

Travel outside of Canada

- Submit a completed **Travel Request Form**. This form includes a section that requires a signature of the natural parent(s).
- All travel outside of Canada must be pre-approved by the program at least two weeks prior to the planned trip
- International travel may require special documentation such as Visa, ESTA



Together We Learn
Central Okanagan Public Schools
International Education
Central Okanagan Public Schools - International Education Department
1040 Hollywood Road South, Kelowna, BC V1Y 6K6 • Phone (250) 860-2114 Fax (250) 860-1046 • www.centokanagan.bc.ca

TRAVEL REQUEST FORM

Today's Date: _____ Travel Departure: _____

Student Name: _____ D.O.B. _____ Passport #: _____
First Last dd/mm/yyyy

Host Family Name: _____ School: _____
First Last

CHECK ONE:

✓	Type of Travel	Instructions	Submit form to Homestay Coordinator
<input type="checkbox"/>	In BC with natural parents	No form required	Inform homestay coordinator of travel plans at least one week prior to travel.
<input type="checkbox"/>	In BC with host family	No form required	Inform homestay coordinator of travel plans at least one week prior to travel.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Outside of BC or Canada with natural parents	Complete sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 7	Submit form at least two weeks prior to travel.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Outside of BC or Canada with host family	Complete sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	Submit form at least two weeks prior to travel.
<input type="checkbox"/>	In BC with supervisor other than host parent, natural parent or SD23 staff	Complete sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 7	Submit form at least two weeks prior to travel. Travel must be pre-approved by the program.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Outside of BC or Canada with supervisor other than host parent or natural parent	Complete sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 7	Submit form at least two weeks prior to travel. Travel must be pre-approved by the program.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Travelling Alone to meet program approved supervisor at destination	Complete sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 7	Submit form at least two weeks prior to travel. Travel must be pre-approved by the program.

SECTION 1 – SUPERVISION
Name the supervisor(s) and contact information of the adult who will be travelling with you. Supervisor must be 25 years of age or older and approved by the program.

✓	Supervisor	Full Name of Supervisor(s)	Phone Number	Relationship to Student
<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural Parent (s)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Host Parent (s)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other supervisor(s)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alone			

Name of person/people you will be meeting, if any, on this trip.

SECTION 2 – PURPOSE OF TRIP
Describe the purpose of the trip and your planned activities below.

[Travel Request Form](#) (link)

Travel With Other Supervisors

- ✓ *Travel with Natural Parents in BC*
- ✓ *Student Travel with SD23 Staff*
- ✓ *Student Travel with an adult approved by the program*
- ✗ *Student Travelling alone*
 - *Not allowed unless approved by program*



Respite

If student is unable to travel with family

- Host family is responsible to make alternate arrangements with another host family from our program when possible
- Host family needs to confirm details with Homestay Coordinator in advance.
- Compensation for host families who hosts your student when your family is away (**\$34/\$37** per night to be paid at drop-off time)
- If alternate supervisory arrangements are made, the supervisor must be over 25 and have a CRC (not staying with a program homestay family)

You must inform your Homestay Coordinator of ALL respite arrangements.



STUDENT ORIENTATION



The following program rules are shared at the student orientation

NOT ALLOWED

- No smoking
- No vaping
- No alcohol
- No drugs
- No weapons



NOT ALLOWED

- No missing school
- No plagiarism
- No driving
- No driving with "L" driver
- No tattoos or piercings
- No jobs
- No mixed gender sleep-overs
- No unsupervised trips



Students can face consequences from their school and International program



Golden Rules for your Homestay

1. Your host family must know where you are at all times and approve of what you are doing.
2. Ask, don't tell, your host family of your plans ahead of time. Don't surprise your host family with a last minute change of plans.
 - o After school activities
 - o Plans with friends
 - o Meals away from home
3. Balance socializing with friends with spending time with your host family.
4. Keep your Canadian cell phone working and always have it with you.
5. Your host family is not a taxi service! Your host family should be available to drive you to occasional social events and activities (ask in advance). Learn how to be independent – biking, bus, etc.
6. Follow the rules of the household
 - o Quiet hours
 - o Curfew
 - o Chores / keep bedroom and bathroom clean
 - o Food
 - o Healthy electronic use
7. It is not an "open" kitchen. Host family is responsible to provide 3 meals and sensible snacks. Buy extra food if necessary.
8. Limit technology when your family is present.
9. Be polite with your words and body language.
10. Discuss concerns early and respectfully. Involve your homestay coordinator if necessary.



KEY DATES 2023/24



DATE	EVENT
August 28 - 30	Welcoming Students at Airport*
August 31 - September 1	Orientation for new students at schools
September 5	First day of school - half day session
September 12	Green Bay Orientation
January 25 - 26	Suggested departure dates for first semester students **
January 27 - 28	Suggested arrival dates for second semester students*
January 29	New student orientation
June 22 - 26	Suggested departure dates for students**

* Students look forward to meeting you. Please be in town to welcome students.

** Please do not invite students to stay longer.



Arrivals & Departures



Responsibly of host family
You will be provided with flight information by email or from your student by email

Arrivals

International program staff will be at the airport. Please check in.

- Welcome signs encouraged
- Welcome bag provided by program



Departures

Program staff will not be at the airport

Flight Changes

If you hear of any flight change information from your student, please inform Homestay Coordinator



Monthly Activities



Fall

September

October

November

Green Bay: New Student Welcome Orientation

Historic O'Keefe Ranch Visit & Haunted Corn Maze

Host Family Event: Bowling & Pizza

Winter

December

January

February

Holiday Movie Matinee

Downtown ice skating & Tim Hortons

Kelowna Rockets Hockey Game

Spring

March

April

May

June

Big White Tubing

Spring Formal Dance

Myra Canyon Adventure Course

Green Bay Farewell



CENTRAL OKANAGAN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION STUDENT OPTIONAL SIGHTSEEING TRIPS

VANCOUVER 3-DAY TOUR

Fall: October 13-15, 2022
Spring: April 23-25, 2023



- Roundtrip Transportation
- City Sightseeing including Stanley Park, Granville Island and Gastown
- 2-nights hotel accommodation
- Breakfast Daily
- Experienced, fun and friendly tour guide
- Shopping at Metrotown Mall
- 1 Dinner at the Old Spaghetti Factory
- Admission to FlyOver Canada & Capilano Suspension Bridge

Fall from
\$605

Spring from
\$625

BANFF & CALGARY 4-DAY TOUR

Spring Break: March 20-23, 2023
Spring Break: March 27-30, 2023



- Roundtrip Transportation
- Experienced, fun and friendly tour guide
- 3 nights' hotel accommodation
- Breakfast daily
- Group Dinner in Calgary
- Group Dinner & Bowling in Banff
- Lake Louise and Chateau Visit
- Admissions to Banff Gondola, Telus Science Centre & Calgary Tower
- Optional add on activities available

From
\$905

VICTORIA 3-DAY TOUR

Fall: October 27-29, 2022
Spring: May 4-6, 2023



- Roundtrip Transportation including BC Ferries
- 2-nights hotel accommodation
- Experienced, friendly and fun tour guide
- Breakfast Daily
- 1 Group Dinner at Old Spaghetti Factory
- City Sightseeing including stop at Mile 0, Fisherman's Wharf, Victoria Inner Harbour & Legislative Buildings
- Admission to Butchart Gardens & Royal Museum

Possible add-ons:

- Whale Watching Tour - \$85 (age 13-18)

Fall from
\$692

Spring from
\$722

Optional Trips

Fall

- Vancouver
- Victoria

Spring

- Rocky Mountains & Calgary
- Vancouver
- Victoria



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THANK YOU

