



# **Student Behaviour Code of Conduct**

**Updated: 08/03/21**

## About this Code of Conduct

This code of conduct outlines UK2Learn's expectation for student's behaviour whilst under our Guardianship. This code of conduct is to give students, parents, agents, host families and staff an understanding of what is expected and also further information about specific laws in the UK that may affect them.

## Behaviour and Code of Conduct when staying with a host family

UK2Learn expects all of their students to be polite and courteous when staying with a host family. In the UK, it is expected that you say "please" and "thank you" when asking for and receiving items. Your Host family is not a hotel and the expectation is that you will be included as part of the family. As such, you will be expected to engage with family members, joining them at mealtimes, and possibly helping with chores such as laying the table. Your host family will explain their own house rules with you when you arrive and at any time during your stay can ask questions or for help if you need it.

## Bedtimes and curfew arrangements

Your host family will agree a suitable bed time for you before your first night. The bedtimes and curfews listed below are guidelines given by UK2Learn to all their host families, these are only a guide so times may differ between host families. If your parents would like you to go to bed earlier or have a different curfew, or would prefer for you not to be allowed out to the shops, UK2Learn will let you host family know this information.

### **Aged 12 and under**

Visiting the local shops: Are allowed to go with an adult

Bedtime: 21:00 (must be in their bedroom, showered and ready for bed)

### **Aged 13 and 14**

Visiting local shops: Are allowed to go with their friends but must be back at 17:30

Bedtime: 22:00 (must be in their bedroom, showered and ready for bed)

### **Aged 15**

Visiting local shops: Are allowed to go alone but must be back at 18:00

Bedtime: 22:00 (must be in their bedroom, showered and ready for bed)

### **Aged 16 and over**

Visiting local shops: Are allowed to go alone but must be back at 18:00

Bedtime: 22:30 (must be in their bedroom, showered and ready for bed)

## Points to remember...

- If you think you will be late home, remember to call your host family and tell them
- You must not walk back home in the dark
- You must not use public transport if you are 14 or under
- You must agree with your host family what time you will be back home
- You must not bring friends home without permission
- You must not stay out overnight
- You must keep your mobile phone switched on and charged at all times
- You must notify your host family if there is a change to your plans

- Please follow these general guidelines but your host family may agree something different with you if they feel it is necessary
- Communication with your host family and the UK2Learn team is the most important thing to remember

### **Use of the kitchen**

Most host families will prepare meals for you (breakfast, lunch and dinner). You may want to help the family in their meal preparations or cook something for yourself, or maybe you'd like to cook for the whole family. Please talk to your host family about this and they will advise you how to use the kitchen and the necessary safety rules. If you have your own food that you wish to eat during your stay, please let your host family know so that it can be stored safely for you. You will be able to access drinks and snacks throughout the day, such as fruit or biscuits and your host family will explain how you can access these.

### **Use of the Bathroom**

Students are asked to be respectful of the family routines. If you are sharing a bathroom, please be considerate with the time taken to shower and bathe as others may need to use the facility. Please leave bathrooms tidy. Some families may have limits on the amount of hot water available each day due to their boiler capacity and type of water supply. Please discuss the best times for showering or taking a bath and always remember to keep the shower curtain inside the bath when you are showering. It is not usually necessary to shower or bathe more than once a day. Please ensure that you lock the door of the bathroom when in use and ensure that you are suitably clothed when travelling to and from the bathroom.

### **Use of the Wi-Fi and access to your host families home computer**

You can ask for your host families Wi-Fi password when you arrive. Some host families have packages where they have a limit on the amount of data they may use in a month; therefore, streaming films for example would be inappropriate. Please note that your host family may have filters on their internet and may use parental controls to prevent access to inappropriate sites. Some host families may turn off the Wi-Fi at bedtime. Students should use their own devices rather than the family's home computer unless in an emergency or if their device is broken.

### **Laws regarding the consumption of alcohol**

UK2Learn does not permit their students to consume alcohol whilst under their care, including when they are staying with a host family. In the UK, it is illegal for people under 18 to buy alcohol in a pub, off-licence, shop or elsewhere. In most cases, it is against the law for anyone to buy alcohol for someone under 18 to drink in a pub or a public place.

### **Laws regarding the use of drugs and illegal substance**

UK2Learn prohibits students from using recreational drugs and illegal substances whilst in their care. In the UK you can get a fine and/or a prison sentence if you:

- take drugs
- carry drugs
- make drugs
- sell, deal or share drugs (also called 'supplying' them)

If you are under 18, the police are allowed to tell your parent(s), Guardian or carer that you've been caught with drugs.

### **Laws regarding smoking**

UK2Learn prohibits students from smoking whilst in their care, which includes when they are staying with a host family. All methods of smoking are prohibited, this includes cigarettes, hand rolled cigarettes, menthol cigarettes, cigars, electronic or e-cigarettes, hookahs, vapes and chewing tobacco. In the UK, it is illegal to buy cigarettes if you are under the age of 18 and it is also illegal for anyone to buy on behalf of someone under the age of 18.

More detailed information, including advice on if you feel pressured to smoke or need help to give up can be found on the Child Line website:

### **Laws regarding sexual activity**

UK2Learn prohibits students from engaging in sexual activity whilst in their care, which includes when they are staying with a host family. Even if a student is over the age of consent - anyone aged 16 or over, regardless of gender or sexuality can legally consent to sex. In the UK the age of consent is 16, and so it is illegal to have sex with someone under the age of 16.

### **Laws regarding tattoos and body piercings**

UK2Learn prohibits students from having a tattoo or body piercing whilst in their care, which includes when they are staying with a host family. In the UK, it is illegal to tattoo a young person under the age of 18, even if they have parental consent. There is no legal age of consent for body piercing, and so it is legal for someone under the age of 18 to have a piercing as long as they have consented to it. Children under the age of 16 cannot legally consent to a genital (or in the case of girls, nipple) piercing, as it's considered to be indecent assault.

### **Arrangements when students wish to stay away from the homestay**

Whilst a student is staying with their host family, they will not be allowed to stay away from the host family unless permission has been given by UK2Learn.

If you have any concerns, please contact UK2Learn's Director, Alex Mackie on 07917820033 or [amackie@uk2learn.com](mailto:amackie@uk2learn.com)

### **This Policy Review**

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Responsibility for handbook review:	Lucy Barton/Alex Mackie