



# AIFS London Homestay Guide

Living with a homestay can be a uniquely rewarding and truly invigorating experience.

While the requirements of each host family are the same (providing you with a warm and comfortable home, your own (or shared with another student) bedroom, breakfast Monday – Friday, use of the laundry facilities once per week and access to the kitchen), every family is different in their composition and in their relationship with their students. Most of our homestay families have been hosting students for several years, and are experienced hosts. How much interaction you have with your family is very much down to yourself.

This guide is provided just to give you a little insight to what to expect with living with a homestay.





## Location

Virtually all of our homestays are located in north London, in highly regarded and sought after neighbourhoods such as Muswell Hill, Finchley, Hampstead, Tufnell Park, and Crouch End. These localities are well equipped with fast transport links into central London, High Streets (our version of a Main Street) with shops and restaurants, and an abundance of green space and community facilities. Though houses in the UK are generally smaller than in the United States, they make up for it in character and cosiness. When you live with your homestay families, they will be there to help you get to know the area and orientate yourself

## Rooms

You will be provided with a room (usually shared with someone else from your respective programme), and each room is different for each homestay. You should be provided with a wardrobe and a study space. TVs and other facilities may be provided, at the discretion of the homestay families.

## Meals

You will be provided with breakfast each morning consisting of cereal, toast, tea or coffee. These items are for breakfast only and not to be taken to your room

Evening meals are self catering and the kitchen is available until 10 pm. All food whether breakfast or evening meals should be eaten in the kitchen or dining room.

Please check with your host for a convenient time for cooking.

## Laundry

Please check with your host about laundry arrangements.

You are entitled to one load of wash a week per student.

If you have more than 1 load please take your larger garments ( i.e. jeans jackets etc ) to a local launderette.

## Bathrooms

Please provide your own toiletries i.e. soap and shampoo

Arrange a convenient time with your host for using the shower or bath.

Hot water may be limited so you need to be mindful of careful use so that there is enough hot water for everyone



## Security

Please check with your host about their security arrangements. Always make sure that windows and doors are locked when you leave the house and last thing at night when you return home.

## Visitors

If you wish to invite a friend to your homestay please check with your host beforehand. Only friends from the AIFS programme are allowed to be invited to your homestay.

NO overnight guests are permitted

If you are going to be away over night or back very late please let your host know in advance.

## Damage Deposit

We hold a small damage deposit which is returned to you at the end of the programme provided there have been no breakages or loss of keys

## Alcohol

Please do not take alcohol to your bedroom

## Other information

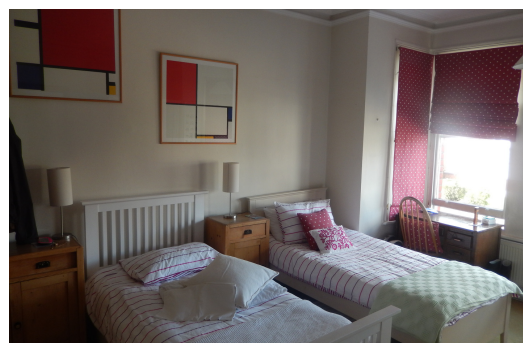
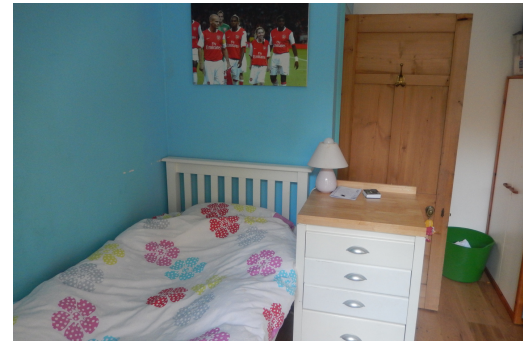
Please remember that the telephone in your homestay is for incoming calls only. If friends and family are calling you from the United States please remind them of the time difference to ensure that they do not telephone at unsocial times. If you purchase a mobile phone, please give the number to your homestay family. Most homestay families also have mobile phones of their own – make sure you have their numbers, too

As for internet, usually all families usually provide internet, to be discussed with each individual family. Again be respectful regarding internet usage. Please remember that computing facilities are provided at the AIFS Student Centre in Bloomsbury during office hours.

Being noisy at inappropriate hours will not be tolerated by the homestay families of AIFS. You will all be living in residential neighbourhoods so please be respectful of your neighbors.

If you have problems adjusting to living with your host family, please talk to them and us about it...communication is key!

*For any more information about homestay living please do not hesitate to email us at [studentinfo@aifs.co.uk](mailto:studentinfo@aifs.co.uk)*

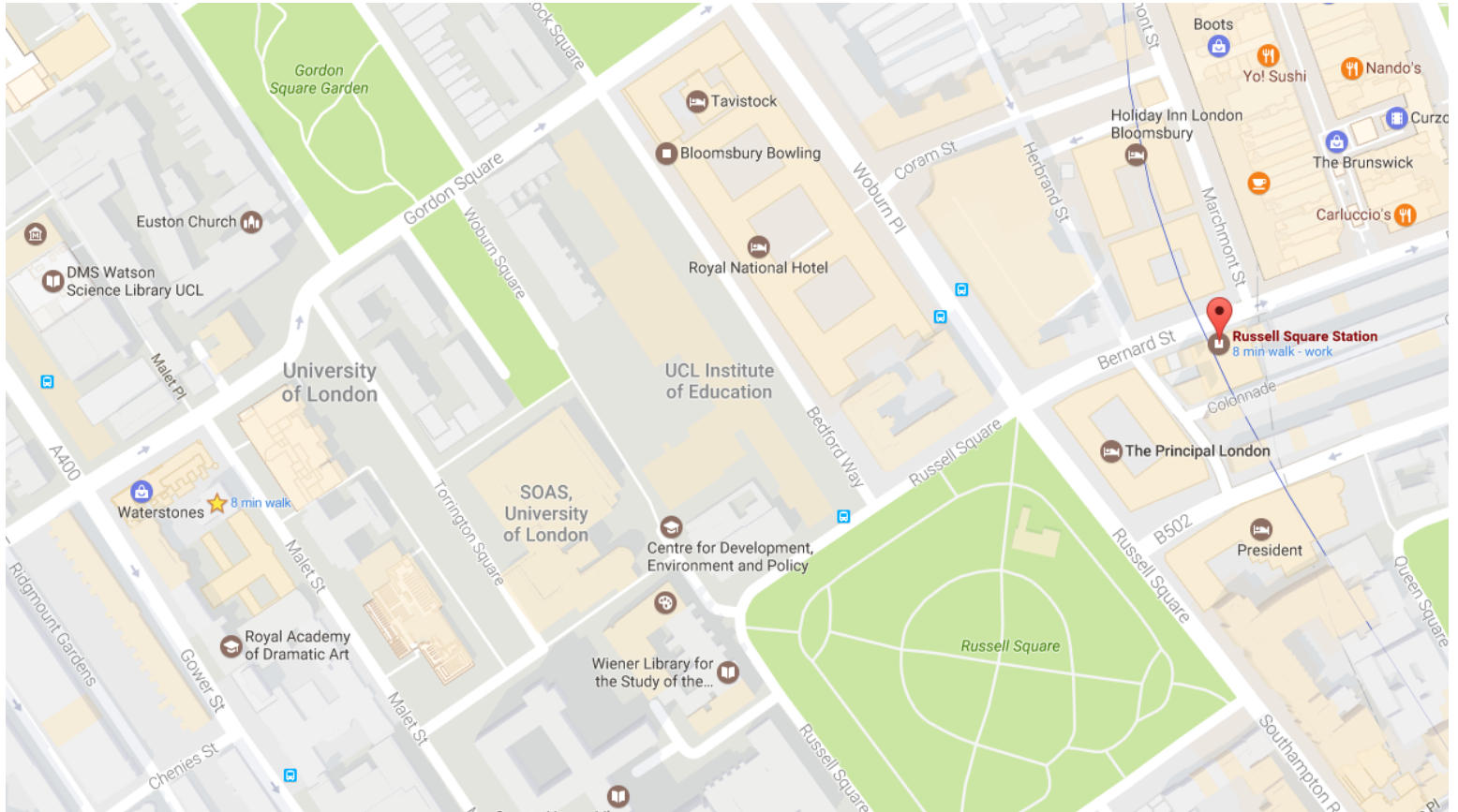




# Traveling from North London

*Arnos Grove, Bounds Green, Wood Green, Turnpike Lane*

*All of these underground stations are located on the Piccadilly line. From your station, take the Piccadilly line west-bound. The nearest Piccadilly line station to Dilke House is Russell Square. Dilke House is approx. an 8 minute walk away from Russell Square station.*





# Traveling from North London

*West Finchley, Finchley Central, East Finchley, Highgate, Archway*

*All of these underground stations are located on the Northern line. From your station, take the Northern line south-bound. The nearest Northern line station to Dilke House is Goodge Street. Dilke House is approx. an 6 minute walk away from Goodge Street station.*



***\*\*Please be aware that the Northern line splits into two directions. You will need to ensure that you take the train that is going via Charing Cross. If there are no trains going via Charing Cross leaving from your station, you can take any train on the Northern line southbound and change at Camden Town or Euston for the correct train\*\****



# Traveling from North London

## New Southgate and Alexandra Palace

If your nearest station is Alexandra Palace or New Southgate, with your oystercard you can take the Great Northern train service from Alexandra Palace or New Southgate to Finsbury Park. The end destination of the train will be Moorgate. From Finsbury Park, follow signs for the underground and take the Piccadilly line west-bound to Russell Square station. Dilke House is approx. an 8 minute walk away.

