



## ACCOMMODATION AND WELFARE POLICY

### Care for younger students under 18 years

Immanuel Lutheran College is a CRICOS-registered provider which enrolls younger students under 18 years of age.

As part of its registration obligations, Immanuel Lutheran College must satisfy Commonwealth and State legislation, as well as any other regulatory requirements, relating to child welfare and protection for any overseas student enrolled who is under 18 years of age.

These obligations include ensuring that all overseas students under 18 years of age are given age-and culturally appropriate information on:

- who to contact in emergency situations, including contact number/s of a nominated staff member, and
- how to seek assistance and report any incident or allegation involving actual or alleged sexual, physical or other abuse.

Immanuel Lutheran College has documented procedures relating to child welfare and safety and will implement these procedures in the event that there are any concerns for the welfare of a student under 18 years of age.

### Accommodation and care options for overseas students under 18 years

Immanuel Lutheran College approves the following accommodation and care options for overseas students:

1. **The student will live with a parent or relative approved by the Department of Immigration.**

In this case:

- i. The College does not provide a welfare letter (CAAW) via PRISMS. The student's family completes Form 157N and provides proof of relationship to Department of Home Affairs (Immigration) at the time of visa application for approval of these arrangements. The Department of Home Affairs (Immigration) must also approve any further change of welfare arrangements.
- ii. If the adult responsible for the welfare, accommodation and other support arrangements for a student under 18 years holds a [Student guardian Visa \(subclass 590\)](#), all obligations and conditions of this visa must be met, including:
  - a. not leaving Australia without the nominating student unless there are compassionate and compelling circumstances and the College has first approved alternative welfare and accommodation arrangements for the student for the adult's period of absence, and
  - b. advising the Department of Home Affairs (Immigration) of any change of address, passport or other changes of circumstances.



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## **Immanuel Lutheran College requires holders of Student Guardian Visas to:**

- i. maintain Overseas Visitor Health Cover for themselves and any dependent children living with them in Australia.
- ii. immediately advise the College of any change to address or contact details.
- iii. immediately advise the College if there are any compassionate or compelling reasons to travel overseas or not be at home for an extended period of time to care for the student.

If there is a valid reason for travelling overseas, and the College is able to approve alternative accommodation and care arrangements for the student for the period of student guardian visa holder's absence, the College will provide documentation approving temporary care arrangements for the student to the student's guardian and for the Department of Home Affairs (Immigration) via PRISMS.

If there is not a valid reason for travelling overseas, or if the College is not able to approve alternative accommodation and care arrangements for the student for the period of student guardian visa holder's absence, the student will need to travel overseas with the holder of the student guardian visa. In this case, the College will advise if compulsory attendance requirements will or will not be affected by the student's absence.

## **2. Accommodation options for students 18 years and older include:**

- i. Homestay Program, including private arrangements requested by a parent

## **3. For College vacation periods, the following accommodation options are available to students 18 years or older:**

- i. Student returns home to parents.
- ii. Student continues to live in / is placed in Homestay, details of which are recorded by the College.
- iii. Student may spend vacation with friend's family or relatives, provided details are given.
- iv. Student may attend a supervised excursion, camp, etc..., provided details are given.
- v. Student may travel unaccompanied during vacation periods, provided details are given.

## **4. Homestay / private accommodation arrangements at Immanuel Lutheran College:**

The Homestay arrangements Homestay Provider, approved by Immanuel Lutheran College meet Queensland legislative requirements for child protection as well as Standard 5 of the 2018 National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students.

### **These include:**

- i. Continuous dates for approved welfare arrangements.
- ii. Documented procedures for checking suitability of accommodation, support and general welfare arrangements before a student is placed in an approved arrangement, and at least every six months thereafter, covering.



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- Guidelines for selecting, screening and monitoring each family and ensuring the family can provide age appropriate care and facilities for the duration of the student's enrolment at the College.
  - Criteria about accommodation services to be provided, and contract for arrangements about providing accommodation services.
  - Orientation program for families new to provision of homestay services.
  - Compliant Homestay risk management strategy, reviewed annually, undertaken by College / operator of the homestay program.
- iii. Blue cards as required for adults living in the homestay / private arrangement, other than overseas students, or who otherwise have regular contact with the student.\*

**\*Note** – As of 31 August 2020, “No card, No start” blue card requirements apply for providers of child accommodation services, unless an exemption applies.

