

19 May 2023

RE: HOST FAMILIES NEEDED - Japanese Exchange Program August 2023

Dear Parent / Caregiver,

We are excited to confirm that students from Kogakuin Junior High School in Japan will be coming to visit Endeavour in August. Our students who are learning Japanese will finally get the opportunity to meet Japanese students in person after a few years of not having visitors due to Covid.

Male students aged between 14 to 15 years of age will be **arriving on Thursday 10 August and departing on Tuesday 22 August 2023.**

As your child is currently studying Japanese, we encourage you to carefully consider if your family is able to host a student from Japan. Hosting a student from overseas is an incredibly rewarding experience for the whole family and it gives you the opportunity to make connections with people from another culture. Students have a great opportunity for purposeful learning as they can use their language skills in a real situation and take some risks by communicating with a native speaker.

All students from Japan have some level of English competency and you can expect them to be able to communicate in English. They will be attending school with your child in normal school hours on weekdays and will wear their own school uniform. Students will be under your care on the weekends.

Here is some feedback from families who have hosted in previous years:

"Give it a go. It is a very worthwhile experience that helps you become aware of things you weren't before. It's always nice to have more company for your other children; it teaches them to think of others besides themselves. It also gives you a chance to spend more time with your own children going out to places."

"It gave both students an opportunity to learn more about each other's culture. Our student was able to join in soccer training as well as play a soccer match and this gave her the opportunity to feel what it is like to be part of a sporting team in Australia. It has given my child a feel for what it would be like for her to be an exchange student if she gets the opportunity to travel to Japan and some of the challenges that she may face. They are now continuing their friendship via social media and hopefully this will be a life-long friendship."

An allowance of \$540 is offered to contribute towards the cost of hosting. An application form is attached and needs to be returned by **Friday 9 June** if you would like to host. The form needs be returned to Sakamoto Sensei via Student Services or Care Group teacher. Alternatively please email chihiro.sakamoto@endeavour.sa.edu.au or call the College on 8368 3311 if you have any questions.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Chihiro Sakamoto
Languages Learning Leader

Richard Baird
Principal