

Dear Lilydale High School,

## OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO EXPERIENCE ANOTHER CULTURE, MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND IMPROVE THEIR LANGUAGE STUDIES AT HOME

In late June - early July we will be receiving exchange students from Argentina, Bolivia, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden and the USA. Our new arrivals will live with a host family and attend a local school for 3, 5 or 10 months. As we plan for their arrival, we are keen to hear from suitable families who might be interested to host a student.

Host families come in all shapes and sizes, backgrounds and ages. To this end, we would be grateful if you would place a notice in your newsletter or mention it on your website. You can download the newsletter notice here in [Word](#) format or as a [PDF](#).

Hosting an exchange student can be a truly rewarding experience. It allows a family to experience a foreign culture first hand, be exposed to a new language and pass on a bit of our own culture. They might even make a friend for life!

All students have at least basic levels of English, would attend a school in your local area and live the life of a local. Below is a sample of students who will be arriving.



17 year old Argentinian student, Paula, is very outgoing and active. She has just undertaken a course in flying trapeze and enjoys outdoor activities, such as horseriding and sightseeing. Sport is essential to Paula's life and she loves animals. Paula's parents describe her as friendly, sensible and responsible.



Sixteen year old, Mathias, is passionate about soccer and enjoys playing the guitar, computer games and hanging out with his friends. He has an older sister and two younger sisters who are twins. He looks up to his older sister who is at University and the inspiration for his dream of coming to Australia, she travelled to Australia and couldn't stop talking about it. Mathias wants to improve his English and hopes to enjoy some sailing and scuba diving while in Australia. He helps his family by cleaning the house, doing the dishes and helping with his younger sisters. He describes himself as open-minded, engaged and always smiling and happy.



French student Enzo, aged 15, has been studying English for 5 years, plus he speaks Italian in addition to his native French. Enzo lives in the mountains of Chamonix, so skiing is a natural choice of sport. He trains regularly and participates in a number of competitions. Hence, he would love to visit the snow fields, whilst in Australia. Enzo is also a keen surfer, as he visits the Atlantic Coast during the summer months. Tennis is also on his agenda during summer. As is practising on his drum kit. His parents describe him as sociable, funny, who has many friends.



Jesse, aged 16, from Germany is very active, enjoying bike riding and fitness training. Jesse also speaks Latin and names history and informatics as favourite subjects. He likes to hang out with friends and participate in sport. Jesse describes himself as polite, co-operative and patient. His aim is to improve his English, meet new people, and experience a different culture to where he lives now.



When you read Katalin's profile you can only think wow. What an ambitious and talented young lady. Only 16, and from Hungary, Katalin (also known as Kata) enjoys volleyball, baking cakes, photography, reading and calls herself a 'musicaholic'. Kata describes baking and travelling as her true passions. Although volleyball consumes alot of time, as she trains three times per week, plus runs regularly. Australia is close to her heart as her parents visited Australia whilst on their honeymoon. Kata's parents describe her as warm hearted, clever, tolerant with a great sense of humour.



Chiara, aged seventeen, has a younger brother and strikes you as a very bubbly and

interesting person. Chiara describes herself as radiant, an optimist, willing, patient, quiet and athletic. She enjoys going to school, practising karate, studying Japanese and going out with her friends. Chiara can speak Italian, French and Japanese and would like to improve her English whilst in Australia.



Chikashi, aged 17, from Japan enjoys listening to music, dancing and studying English. He would like to do activities that involve nature and maybe get the opportunity to interact with some native animals. His goal is to speak fluent English and learn how to convey his feelings and thoughts in English along with learning how to cook Australian meals. Chikashi has three older siblings and helps his family by cleaning the house, washing dishes, doing laundry and making dinner. He describes himself as considerate and cheerful.



Tessa, aged 16, from the Netherlands is very active, enjoying outdoor pursuits such as horse riding and softball. She also enjoys Thai-kick boxing and going to the gym. Whilst in Australia, Tessa, would like to try surfing. She describes herself as independent, honest, social, creative and sporty. From the age of 14, Tessa had a desire to visit Australia. To expand her horizons and to find out more about herself.

You can view more [profiles](#) of students arriving soon from our website. Please note that this is just a handful of the students who will be arriving. If families would like a selection of student profiles sent to them to review and decide which student may fit into their family best, please contact us or reply to this email.

The Stuart family were thrilled to have Danish student Simon stay with them for 8 months. As commented by host mum Victoria, *"it has been a fantastic experience. Simon has been an awesome role model to our two young children, he has been like an older brother to them."* Victoria continues, *"the experience has benefited us too, as it has allowed us to have greater free time and flexibility as a family. I was very impressed with Simon, as within the first couple of days he was here, he asked what should his chores be?"*

*"Just give it a go, the benefits will surprise you. I highly recommend it"*, mentions Australian Host Dad Andrew, from the Stuart family. *"Not only do your children benefit, but the benefits exist for the parents too."* Host Dad, Andrew continues, *"We are so lucky to have Simon come stay with us. He is a fantastic student, easy going and not very demanding. He has fitted into the Australian way of life so easy. He even obtained his Bronze Medallion. We are so proud of Simon."*



The Stuart family talk about their hosting experience further and discuss the ups and downs of hosting, why they hosted and the benefits of being a volunteer host parent. Please check out their video [here](#). You can also watch a selection of videos of the Cain family from our [host family testimonials](#) page on our website.

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand is a not-for-profit organisation that is registered with all state and territory Departments of Education around Australia and with the Ministry of Education in NZ. We are the first and only secondary exchange organisation in Australia and New Zealand to be certified to ISO 9001 (Quality Management System) and we ensure the highest standards of care and

support to our participants. You can find out more about our organisation by visiting [www.studentexchange.org.au](http://www.studentexchange.org.au).

If your students, families or language teachers have any questions about hosting an exchange student or would like to view profiles of students arriving from other countries, they can respond to this email, call our office on 1300 135 331 or visit our [website](#). Our staff members will be happy to discuss which student might be best suited to their family. No obligation.

Please note that the purpose of this email is to find families to host international exchange students. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Harders  
Hosting Coordinator



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