

Welfare and Accommodation Policy

FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Freshwater Christian 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 School does **not** provide a welfare letter (CAAW) via PRISMS. The student's family completes Form 157N and provides proof of relationship to Department of Immigration at the time of visa application for approval of these arrangements. The Department of 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:
 - o not leaving Australia without the nominating student unless the School has first approved alternative welfare and accommodation arrangements for the student for the adult's period of absence, and
 - o advising the Department of Immigration of any change of address, passport or other changes of circumstances.

2. The student will live in school approved accommodation and care arrangements and the School will generate the welfare letter (CAAW) via PRISMS to accompany the student's Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE).

In this case:

- i. Any accommodation, welfare and other support arrangements for the student must be approved by the School, including arrangements provided by third parties
- ii. Any changes to approved arrangements must also be approved by the School. This includes any requests by students to attend "Schoolies Week" on completion of Year 12.
- iii. If a student for whom the School has issued a CAAW refuses to maintain approved arrangements, the School will report this to the Department of Immigration and advise the student to contact the Department of Immigration to ensure visa implications are understood. (See Department of Immigration office addresses at: <http://www.border.gov.au/about/contact/offices-locations/australia>)

School approved accommodation options for full fee paying 500 (formerly 571) visa subclass students under 18 years of age include:

- i. Homestay Program operated by the school. Please see *Additional Information*, below.
- ii. Private accommodation and care arrangements approved by the School which meet all requirements under relevant state and commonwealth legislation.

3. For School vacation periods, the following accommodation options are available to full fee paying 500 (formerly 571) visa subclass students under 18 years of age for whom the school has issued a CAAW:

- i. Student returns home to parents
- ii. Student continues to live in / is placed in Homestay arranged and approved by the school
- iii. Student may spend vacation with relatives or a friend's family if all requirements are met in order to attain school approval.

4. Accommodation options for full fee paying 500 (formerly 571) visa subclass students 18 years and older include:

- i. Any accommodation, welfare and other support arrangements for the student must be approved by the School, including arrangements provided by third parties.
- ii. Any changes to approved arrangements must also be approved by the School. This includes any requests by students to attend "Schoolies Week" on completion of Year 12.
- iii. Homestay Program.

5. For School vacation periods, the following accommodation options are available to full fee paying 500 (formerly 571) visa subclass 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 School.
- iii. Student may spend vacation with friend's family or relatives, provided details are given.

Additional Information:

HOMESTAY / PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION ARRANGEMENTS:

The Homestay / private accommodation arrangements operated and approved by Freshwater Christian College meets Queensland legislative requirements for child protection as well as Standard 5 of the National Code. These include:

- o Continuous dates for approved welfare arrangements;
- o Documented procedures for checking suitability of accommodation, support and general welfare arrangements;
 - Guidelines for selecting family and ensuring the family can provide a stable environment for the duration of the student's enrolment at the school;
 - 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 operator of the homestay program;
- o Blue Card for adults living in the homestay / private arrangement other than overseas students.

STUDENT GUARDIAN VISAS

Freshwater Christian 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 School of any change to address or contact details;
- iii. immediately advise the School 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 School is able to approve alternative accommodation and care arrangements for the student for the period of student guardian visa holder's absence, the School will provide documentation approving temporary care arrangements for the student for the Department of Immigration.

If there is not a valid reason for travelling overseas, or if the School 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 School will advise if compulsory attendance requirements will or will not be affected by the student's absence.

Status	Approved	Supersedes	v6.1
Version	v6.2	Authorised by	Principal
Last updated	19/05/2017	Reviewed	Every two years