

# Collegiate Guardians

## Your questions answered

We list below some of the most frequently asked questions put to us by overseas students and parents. We understand that coming to the UK can be daunting for a young student as well as exciting and stimulating. Even the smallest details can give rise to anxiety. We hope that the answers we give will help to allay any worries you or your child may have.

### ***What supervision will my child receive?***

The guardian family will treat your child as their own in terms of the care and discipline given. Your child will eat and socialise with them and go on family outings and treats. If your child joins in with the usual pranks and antics, then he or she can expect disciplinary measures along with the guardians' own children!

### ***What should I do about pocket money?***

The school normally issues guidelines regarding pocket money. We suggest you open a savings account for your child with auto-teller cash card facilities on your first visit to the UK. For half-term holidays and exeats, the guardians will normally pay for most incidental expenses then claim the amounts back, so your child will only need pocket money for any small treats and presents he or she wishes to buy.

### ***Who will collect my child from school or airport?***

The guardians will normally collect and deliver your child at the start and end of term from and to the airport. The exception is when the school supplies escorted transport. However, the guardians will meet and deliver your child at exeats and half-terms. If there is ever a problem, then we will arrange for a trusted employee to collect or deliver your child.

### ***What clothes should my child wear when with the guardian family?***

This is a time of relaxation, so casual clothes are appropriate. Some schools insist that children wear uniform to leave and re-enter school, but unless the guardian family have arranged attendance at a formal event, then casual attire is fine. But not *too* outrageous, please!

### ***What happens if my child is ill whilst with the guardian family?***

Minor ailments will be treated at home. If a doctor is consulted, the guardian family doctor will be called. For emergency treatment, the guardians would accompany the child to hospital, alert us and we would contact you immediately, also keeping the school informed.

***How will my child make friends with British children?***

Easily! Happily, children from all over the world are similar, despite wide differences in cultural backgrounds. However, we ease the path by finding out about your child's interests and telling the guardians. Equally, we give you some details about the guardians family so that your child knows something about them. In our experience, a common love of pop music and computer games helps enormously!

***Will my child like the food?***

If you come from a non-western background, the food may seem strange at first. However, we insist that our guardian families offer well-balanced, wholesome meals in good variety - not just burgers and pizza! Britain is multi-cultural and has assimilated foods from all over the world into the national diet, so in our experience, children from overseas adapt to the British menu very quickly.

***My child is not used to pets. Are they safe?***

Pets play a big part in British family life. If you are unsure about your child's reaction to them, tell us before we select a guardian and we will try to place him or her in a household with no animals. However, if you are happy with pets, the guardians will explain the basic rules of treatment and hygiene involved.

***What if my child wishes to learn to ride / scuba dive / ski?***

Any activity taking place outside school jurisdiction will be referred to you before your child is allowed to take part.

***N.B.*** All our guardian families are expected to take out appropriate insurance to cover your child whilst in their care. **You must also ensure that your child is covered by an appropriate insurance policy during the stay in the UK, whether at school or with the guardian family.**