

HOST FAMILY PROFILE

THE MARSH FAMILY

Family members living at home	Occupation	DoB and Age in Sept 2014
Sarah(host mother)	School Teacher	(32 yrs)
Clive (host father)	Building Surveyor	(33 yrs)
Summer (host sister)	Primary school	(7 yrs)
Melanie(host sister)	Pre-school nursery	(5 yrs)
Amber (host sister)	Pre-school nursery	(5 yrs)
Margherita (host sister) The host family hopes to host a second female student at the Sarahe time as hosting you. Margherita is 16 years from the USA. You are a similar age to Margerita but from a different country and she speaks a different native language; therefore, the only way that you and Margherita will be able to communicate is by using English language only. We believe that it will be better for you to have another teenager in the host family for friendship and companionship. When you first arrive in England, you and Margherita can travel together on journeys to school and journeys around the local area, at least until when you know the area well enough to make you own way around. We believe that this will help you to adapt and settle more quickly to life in England.	High School Exchange Student	(16 yrs)

Can the student send parcels to this address prior to arriving?

YES

Host Family Lifestyle

1. Please describe the personality of your family? (For example, do you consider yourselves outgoing, lively, affectionate, quiet, reserved, shy, academic, etc?)

We are an easy going and happy family with a very strong family bond. We have three lovely children who are very lively and energetic. We live in a lively and busy household with lots of activity.

Interviewer's notes

Sarah (host mum) and Clive (host dad) are a married husband and wife couple. They have three young daughters. The household is a busy family home and full of energy.

It is a very happy family environment. The host mother works as a teaching assistant in a local school. The host father is an architect.

2. Please describe your favourite social activities? (For example, do you meet with friends/family or do you spend your spare time doing hobbies, watching the TV or reading?)

In our free time, we mostly enjoy spending time with our children and other family relations. We love to interact with the children and are very family orientated. I (Sarah, host mum) am a dance teacher and therefore really enjoy dancing. We enjoy going swimming once or twice a week and we go camping some weekends.

The family really hope that you will interact with their children as much as possible. The garden at the rear of the house is full of outdoor activities for the children such as swings, slide, play house and big outdoor paddling pool. The host parents will also introduce you to their network of family relations and extended family that live nearby.

3. How often do you go out? Where are you most likely to take your student?

We go swimming on a weekly basis and go camping many weekends. We enjoy family walks in our local parks. We have our family relations and friends come over to visit us quite often or we visit them.

The host family have a conventional / normal lifestyle and enjoy routine activities similar to most other host families. They are a good example of a typical British family with regular hobbies and interests.

4. What are your hobbies and interests? Do you collect anything?

We both love to spend quality time with our family. We enjoy swimming, walking and dancing. Our main interests are spending time with the family, listening to music, watching television and cooking meals.

5. Please describe a typical weekday in your home? What time do you eat your evening meal?

We get up at 6.45 AM for breakfast, to get ready for work and also to get the children ready. We leave the house around 7.45 AM. On the way to work, we take the children to a childminder. I Sarah (host mum) return home from work at about 4.00 PM. Clive (host dad) returns home about 6.00 PM. We share an evening meal but the time of dinner is flexible, depending on when everyone is ready to eat.

The family works regular hours during weekdays only. They do not work shifts or antisocial hours. This fits in well with family life. The host parents are at home on evenings and weekends. The host parents are also at home overnight. Therefore, you

will not be left alone. You will have company during the evenings and weekends when not at school.

6. What is your religion?

We are members of the Church of England but we do not practice.

The family will not make You attend Church. The family will not try to influence you's religious beliefs and they will not encourage or require you to change her religious practices.

7. What household chores do you expect your student to help with?

Wash dinner plates/load dishwasher Make their own bed Help feed pet/s Wash their own laundry.

The family are not strict. The family are relaxed and lenient. They will not set household chores for you. They hope that you will help out occasionally.

8. What would you most like to share with your student?

We hope to share our family, culture and beliefs with you. We want you to feel like part of our family. I (Sarah, host mum) teach dance classes. If you is interested, You may come with me to dance classes.

Host Family Accommodation

1. Please describe your family home?

Detached Semi-detached Terraced Apartment

No of Bedrooms **4 bedrooms** No of Bathrooms **1 bathroom and 1 downstairs w/c**

There is a driveway at the front of the house. The family has two cars parked on the drive. The front of the house is clean, tidy and well presented. Entering the house through the main front door, there is a hallway. To the left of the hallway there is the living room. To the right of the hallway there are stairs leading to the first floor. From the living room to the right there are French doors leading to a second room which is used as a children's play room and, from here, the garden. Also leading from the living room to the left is a very large kitchen. There is a dining room table and chairs in the corner of the kitchen. Also, on the ground floor is the gym area and office room for quiet study. On the first floor, there are three bedrooms and main family bathroom. The host parents have their own bedroom in a loft conversion which is now a second floor of living space.

2. Please explain where your home is located in relation to local facilities?

	DISTANCE	WALK OR BUS OR TRAIN
LOCAL SHOPS	2 minutes	Short walk
POST OFFICE	5 - 10 minutes	Short walk
NEAREST TOWN CENTRE	5 - 10 minutes	Short walk
NEAREST CITY CENTRE	3 to 4 miles	Short bus journey
COUNTRYSIDE	5 minutes	Short walk

This is not a remote or rural or isolated location. There are local shops and post office a short walk away. There are two city centres nearby. The city centre of Wolverhampton is very near, no more than 10 minutes by bus. Wolverhampton is a large city with a university and large student population. The city centre of Birmingham is about 15 to 20 minutes by train and 30 minutes by bus. Birmingham is the second largest city in the UK. Birmingham city centre is very modern and cosmopolitan. The city centre has excellent shopping, leisure, recreational, cultural and sporting venues.

3. Is there good local transport? YES

How far is the nearest bus stop?

The bus stop is located right outside the house. There is a bus that calls here every five minutes or so.

The bus stop is right outside the house. This will be very convenient for you. From here, you can catch the bus to school and for bus journeys around the local neighbourhood. There is a regular and reliable bus service.

4. Please let us know if you have any pets? YES

If Yes: - Dog/s Cat/s Birds [] Reptiles []

The family have a dog called Poppy. They have three cats. The cats have a permanent run (fenced off area) in the garden. This is so they do not use the main garden area. The house is clean and there are no strong animal odours and no pet hairs on the furniture.

5. Does anyone smoke inside your home? NO

No members of the family smoke. This is a smoke free house. There are no unpleasant and unhealthy cigarette odours inside the house.

6. Please list your three favourite family meals?

- *Chicken and Pasta*
- *Spaghetti Bolognaise*
- *Fajitas and Salad*

The family are not vegetarian or vegan. They follow a normal diet. The family enjoys a variety of traditional English foods and international cuisine.

7. Please let us know what facilities are in your home?

DVD [] Shower [] Dishwasher [] Internet [] TV [] Satellite TV [] Microwave [] Other [] Please list.

The house has modern and excellent facilities, including satellite television and internet. In addition, the family have a full gym facility inside the house. You can use gym equipment if she wishes. Inside the house, there is also an office room. You can use this quiet room for study.

8. What style is the interior your home?

Minimalist [] Modern [] Executive [] Cottage [] Other [] please describe.

The house has a clean and modern interior. The kitchen is very large with large dining table and chairs, which leads from the left into the garden and to the right into the gym area and the office room (for quiet study). Most of the floors are wooden.

9. Please let us know which family member the student should talk to first if they have a problem?

I (Sarah,, host mum) suppose that it will depend on the nature of the problem and who You feels most comfortable with. You may talk to me (Sarah, host mum) or Clive (host dad). We will both do our best to help.

Why do you wish to host a student?

1. Why do you want to host an international student?

We wish to give you the opportunity to spend some time in Britain to learn more about the British way of life. We have enough spare room in our house to accommodate you and feel that it will be a great experience for us all. As a family have we have a lot to give and will make you feel welcome.

The family are a very experienced host family. They have now hosted for several years. They have hosted students from the USA, Europe, Australia, Thailand and Argentina.

2. How you will try to help your student adjust to living with your family?

We would really like to communicate with you before she travels to England. By speaking first before you arrive, we feel that this will help break the ice and make you feel less nervous about coming to live with us. When in England, we will let you settle in, show you around the local area and help you to work out the journey to school. We will encourage you to interact and communicate with us and to spend family time together to make you feel like part of our family. We hope you will participate in some of our family activities. You are welcome to come with us when we go on days out walking, shopping and join us on our weekends away when we go camping in different areas of England. This will be a good opportunity for you to see different regions of Britain.

3. What activities can your student participate in with you?

TV Playing board games/cards Shopping Visiting relatives/friends
Gardening Sightseeing/excursions Playing sports Watching sports
Other please list

We hope you will wish to go swimming with us, to join my dance classes (Sarah, host mum) or accompany us on some of our camping trips.

The family offers to involve you in a variety of family activities to make you feel welcome.

4. During the year, there may be several family celebrations. Which of these can your student look forward to celebrating with you during their stay?

Harvest Festival [] BBQ Wedding Christening [] Bonfire Night
Halloween Christening [] Diwali [] Christmas Day Boxing Day
Easter Sunday [] Birthday New Year Xmas light switch on Other
please list

We are happy to take You to school fetes and local markets.

There will be a number of public holidays and private family celebrations whilst you are in Britain.

5. Please state things you think that the student will need to budget for if living with your family? (For example, phone costs, the costs of family social occasions to which you may invite them, etc?)

You should budget on a weekly or monthly basis to cover the costs of the following: - international phone calls back home; personal items such as toiletries; school stationery or equipment, such as pens, pencils, ruler, calculator, etc; the costs of social/recreational pastimes, such as meeting with friends, cinema, bowling, shopping, etc; and, the costs of souvenirs, etc, when on excursions.