



Rotary International District 9750 Youth Exchange Program Inc



Inbound Student Travel Policy

Purpose

This policy sets out the requirements for Inbound students who wish to partake in Student Travel whilst on Rotary Youth Exchange in D9750. Further, it works in conjunction with the

“Rotary Youth Exchange Australia Policy & Procedures for Student Protection Endorsed by Rotary International”

This policy applies to all exchange students whether or not they are over the age of 18.

Definition of Student Travel

For our Rotary rules, travel is defined as being away from your current host family's home for one or more nights.

Travel can only be undertaken if your absence does not clash with the plans of your host family, your host club, District activities and others who provide hospitality to you during your stay with them. It must also not break school attendance requirements, unless authorised.

The host club counsellor and host families are responsible for your safety and well being and they must assess any travel plans you have with this in mind as the first priority.

It should be noted that mobile phone coverage in Australia is not everywhere. If we need to contact you urgently for whatever reason, we need to know how to do this. We need landline phone numbers.

There are generally 5 types of travel covered under this policy.

1. Travel with Host families, Rotarians or other people
2. Visiting friends for sleepovers or nights away from your host family.
3. School excursions
4. Leaving the boundaries of the District 9750 overnight.
5. Capricorn Ramble and other District sponsored activities

Approval to embark on Student Travel must be obtained using the Student Travel Approval form. Please allow 7 days for the approval to be obtained.

Some Travelling which is Forbidden

1. Travelling by private aircraft is strictly forbidden under Rotary rules. Private aircraft refers to all aircraft that are not licensed as regular public transport aircraft.
2. Travel in gliders, ultra-light planes, hang-gliders, bungee jumping, parachuting and paragliding is strictly forbidden.

3. Hitch hiking can be dangerous and it is strictly forbidden for all exchange students.
4. When travelling, you should not swim in the surf at beaches in Australia due to the very dangerous waters caused by rips, large waves, sharks and crocodiles unless you are supervised and then swim only in areas permitted and patrolled.

Swim between the flags at all times. If there are no flags then don't swim

The following is an extract from the "Rotary Youth Exchange Australia Policy & Procedures for Student Protection Endorsed by Rotary International"

Definition of Responsible Adult

A responsible adult is an adult male or female

1. who in a family or group situation is responsible for caring for an exchange student
2. whose role is such that there is seen to be virtually no opportunity for the student to be placed at risk of abuse.
3. who the student's counsellor and/or host parents would establish is a suitable and caring person, acting as conscientious parents would in protecting their own under age teenage child
4. who has not been police or formally reference checked
5. who might be the family of a school friend who invites the student for an overnight stay, a Rotarian who invites the student for a family meal, a close relative of the host family who invites the student to go away with them for a short period, or any similar person where there is virtually no opportunity for sexual harassment to occur.

This does not extend to other Rotary Exchange Students

Definition of Volunteer **

A 'volunteer' is an adult, male or female

1. Who may, at times on his or her own, be responsible for caring for an exchange student.
2. Whose role is such that there is seen to be a opportunity for the student to be placed at risk or abuse
3. Who has been police, reference checked and approved as prescribed in Section 1.
4. Youth Exchange Committee member or any Rotary Club counsellor or any host family member over the age of 18 years of age living in the family home while the student is living there. A 'volunteer' may also include Rotarians or others who take students on organised events or adults who it is planned will be caring for Rotary Exchange Students at times on their own where there is seen to be an opportunity for the student to be placed at risk of abuse.

** Volunteer must have the Rotary Youth Volunteer information and declaration form completed.