



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL  
*Youth Exchange*  
DISTRICT 9700, AUSTRALIA



## **DISTRICT 9700 RULES OF ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME**

### DRIVING:

The student may not drive any type of motorised vehicle. This includes cars, motorcycles, scooters and farming vehicles. The student may not ride pillion or be a passenger in any way on a motorcycle or scooter. The student may not travel in a vehicle with an unlicensed or learner driver at the wheel. The student may not travel in a vehicle with a "P Plate" probationary driver unless the Club President and/or Youth Director have approved of that driver and have Host Parents' consent.

### ROMANTIC INVOLVEMENT:

While the student is not expected to avoid contact with the opposite sex, serious and long romantic attachments are forbidden in the programme and if the student feels a situation is getting out of hand the matter should immediately be raised with the counsellor who will assist the student.

### DRUGS

Possession of or taking of drugs is a criminal offence in Australia and is expressly forbidden in the programme, Breaking of this rule is the quickest way to an immediate return ticket home.

### SMOKING

In Australia smoking of cigarettes is strongly discouraged and smoking inside public buildings and schools is forbidden. Smoking in cars and homes is very uncommon. Smoking by the student while wearing School uniform or Rotary blazer, at any Rotary function and in public situations is also forbidden. Where the exchange application indicates the applicant is a non smoker, smoking may not be taken up during the exchange.

### ALCOHOL

The rules of the programme do not forbid the consumption of wine or beer provided the student is above the legal drinking age, but here again the wishes of the host parent must be respected. Spirits such as brandy, whisky, vodka and gin are forbidden. The student may enjoy alcohol in the host situation but may not consume alcohol in any public situation.

### DISFIGUREMENT

Students will not have any body piercing or tattoo procedure undertaken during their exchange. Students will moderate the display of any existing piercing or tattooing consistent with directions of the Club counsellor and District Chairman.

### HOST PARENTS

The student shall make every effort to adapt to the host parents way of life and household. The obligation is always on the student to adapt and not the host parents. The student should remember that the host family owes them nothing. The student however owes the host family an enormous debt of gratitude for the considerable personal and financial sacrifices they are making in hosting the student.

### SCHOOL

The student shall attend a Secondary High School on a regular basis. No concession will be allowed for a student to attend any form of tertiary educational establishment. The student shall participate in school, extramural activities, projects and homework. The decision on whether the student sits the official examinations or an internal examination rests with the particular school authority.

When you are enrolled in the school, discuss with the Principal what subjects you should take and where possible take the opportunity to study subjects not previously available to you, particularly if you have completed High School.

It is recommended that all trips and tours are undertaken in the school holidays, but time may be taken off school only if both the Principal and the host parent give their permission for this. Attendance and performance at school must comply with the student visa conditions including 80% attendance and successful performance.

The student shall comply with the rules of the school in all respects and with particular reference to dress, makeup, jewellery and hair regulations.

### DRESS & PRESENTATION

The student shall wear a suitable style of clothing to all Rotary functions. Jeans and Tee-shirts are not acceptable at formal Rotary functions. Hair colours other than natural should not be adopted without the consent of Host Counsellor.

### TRAVEL & SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

All requests which require District Approval must be submitted on the Application Form provided by the District Committee. Clubs may use this form for requests within the clubs jurisdiction.

Hitch-hiking is expressly forbidden.

If a student wishes to make a trip during school terms the following procedure must be adopted:

- a) The permission of the Principal or relevant teacher must be obtained in writing by the Counsellor
- b) The permission of the Youth and/or International Director of the Rotary Club must be obtained
- c) The permission of the Counsellor must be obtained.
- d) The permission of the host parent must be obtained
- e) The youth officer of the Rotary Club must be informed.
- f) The Host District Country Co-ordinator or Chairman shall be supplied with contact telephone numbers and addresses on a daily basis, to cover the event of an emergency.

If the student wishes to make a trip during school holidays the same procedure applies except that the Principal's permission is not necessary. In addition, all trips outside the Rotary District boundaries requires the support of Country Co-ordinator and the permission of the District Youth Exchange Chairman. Certain official tours organised by the District Committee and Rotary Clubs have been arranged to provide the student with an opportunity of seeing the country. Additional travel may be undertaken by the student only if approved by the appropriate authorities.

The student may not phone another Rotary Club directly to ask for hosting on a trip.

The student may not travel to and from Australia by any other route than a direct route or a route, approved by the host and sponsor District Committees.

The student should not stay in Australia for longer than 365 days, but early departure is also strongly discouraged as it is felt that the student owes it to his or her host club to spend not less than 335 days with them.

### AIR FLIGHTS

The student may not travel on any plane other than a scheduled flight of a recognised airline. If the student wishes to travel in a light aircraft, permission in writing must be obtained from the student's natural parents.

### VISITS

Visits by parents are not usually permitted. Visits are not be allowed without host District Youth Exchange Committee authorization and would usually be permitted in situations such as where the student was hospitalised. This District does not officially offer accommodation or transport in the event of natural parents visiting. Visits by former students, after their exchange year, with or without their parents are encouraged as an alternative to family visits during exchanges. Such visits would not be a Rotary International activity.

### ROTARY MEETINGS AND FUNCTIONS

The student shall attend as many meetings of their Rotary Club as possible. The wishes of the club related to the time and number of meetings will be communicated to the student by the particular Rotary Club. Whenever Rotary functions coincide with the student's personal arrangements, the student must give preference to the Rotary function.

### INSURANCE

The student must have complied with Insurance requirements of Rotary International and those required as conditions of the visa.

### COSTS

The Rotary Club is responsible for pocket money as recommended by the District Committee, cost of school fees and books and District Conference expenses for the student. The student is responsible for providing \$A400 emergency fund.

LAWS

The student must obey the laws of the host country.

TALKS

The student must agree to talk to Rotary Clubs, Interact and Rotaract when requested.

LANGUAGE

If you cannot speak English you must learn to do so. It is mandatory that the student demonstrates a serious and sustained effort towards achieving fluency in the English language during the exchange.

ORIENTATIONS

The student shall attend all inbound orientations and outbound orientations when requested by the District Committee. The only excuse that will be accepted is illness. In the event of illness alternate training is to be undertaken.

EMPLOYMENT

The student will refrain from seeking or obtaining permanent or full time employment while undertaking the programme. Employment within the terms of the Student Visa may only be undertaken with the consent of the Club President.

TELEPHONE CALLS

The student may not use the host parents' telephone without permission for either local or overseas calls. The student is responsible for the costs of all telephone calls.

LOCAL TRANSPORT

The host parent is under no obligation to transport the student at the student's request and use should be made of public transport where possible.

LAST PERIOD

In the past many students who have excelled for 11 months ruin their whole image by bad behaviour in the final month. Remember you are representing your family and country and you will be remembered by your presentation over your exchange year.

EARLY RETURN HOME

The student will be sent home if, in the opinion of the District Youth Exchange Chairman in the host country, continuation of the exchange period will be detrimental to the programme, the district, the host club or the student. Any costs incurred as a result of the early return of the student will be the responsibility of the student's natural parents.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ agree to abide by the rules of the District 9700 Inc Youth Exchange Programme as set out in the exchange application conditions and as extended by these country specific rules. I understand that if I break any of the rules I may be returned home forthwith.

Student's signature

/ /

Father's signature

Mother's signature