



BEYOND QUEENSLEA DRIVE EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Information for exchange students arriving at Christ Church



Christ Church
Grammar School
PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Executive Assistant to the Exchange Co-ordinator
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Welcome

Dear International Exchange Student,

Welcome to Christ Church Grammar School.
Congratulations on being selected by your school
to come to Christ Church Grammar School (CCGS)
in Perth, Western Australia (WA).

Each student is provided with a host family who
will care for you and be your guide around Perth
and WA.

At Christ Church, you will have the opportunity
to choose from a wide range of subjects and
co-curricular activities, including sports, drama,
music, and many more.

I encourage you to follow your passions and
interests and embrace the many opportunities
provided at Christ Church Grammar School.
By immersing yourself fully in both the academic
and co-curricular life of the school, you will gain an
authentic and rewarding experience of life as an
Australian student.

I recommend that you visit the [School's website](#)
to gain a deeper understanding of the fantastic
subjects, activities and programs we offer.

The School aims to cater for individual student
needs and the requirements of each exchange
student's home school. I will work with you to
create your school timetable before you arrive.

I look forward to welcoming you to Christ Church
and trust that your time spent with us will be
exciting, rewarding and full of happy and long
lasting memories and friendships.

Mr Neil Saggars

Exchange Co-ordinator
Director of Activities





Beyond Queenslea Drive Exchange Program

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of our exchange program, known as Beyond Queenslea Drive, is to provide an international experience for our students and students of our partner schools. As well as gaining friends overseas, the students in this program grow personally and develop a deeper international awareness. The program is seen as an excellent addition to our special learning environment for boys at Christ Church.

PERIOD OF EXCHANGE

Exchange periods range from four to ten weeks. Please be aware that many exchanges include some or all of the April, July, or October school holidays.

EXPECTATIONS

We expect an exchange student to become fully involved in the life of Christ Church and to maintain acceptable behaviour and academic records for the duration of his exchange.

Exchange students are expected to observe the rules and values of Christ Church. If a student does not comply with the rules and expectations of the exchange program, Christ Church reserves the right to cancel the exchange and send the student home at his parents' expense.

Exchange students are warmly welcomed into the school community, and are expected to become involved in life outside the classroom.

About Christ Church

Christ Church Grammar School is one of Australia's foremost independent boys' schools and is proud to welcome exchange students from partner schools in the United Kingdom, South Africa, United States of America, New Zealand, France, China, Japan and Canada.

Established in 1910, Christ Church Grammar School is a Pre-Kindergarten to Year 12 Anglican day and boarding school for boys in Perth, Western Australia. With more than 1700 students, our Preparatory School caters for boys from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 6, and Senior School for boys in Years 7 to 12. Boys from Years 7 to 12 can attend as day students or boarders.

Christ Church has a long and proud history of educational achievement. With consistently strong academic results, it is one of the best performing, non-selective schools in the country. We are focused on building good men who think critically, act ethically and have a goal to make a positive difference in their world.

Boys visiting Christ Church on exchange will be welcomed into the school community and will have many opportunities to make new friends and experience life from an Australian perspective.

About Perth

Perth is the capital of Western Australia and is home to almost 2 million people. Perth has wonderful weather all year round, with a Mediterranean climate of hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters. Seasons in Perth are officially defined as coinciding with calendar months, so summer starts on 1 December, autumn starts on 1 March, winter starts on 1 June and spring starts on 1 September. Due to the pleasant climate, there are plenty of outdoor activities to enjoy.

Perth has beautiful beaches with clear blue water. Cottesloe Beach is a popular spot and is close to Christ Church. Another place of interest in Perth is Kings Park, which is one of the largest inner-city parks in the world (bigger than Central Park in New York). Christ Church is on the banks of the Swan River which winds its way from the coast into the city.



Family and student information

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

□ APPLY FOR AN AUSTRALIAN VISA

You will need to [apply for a visa](#) to visit Australia. Visa applications should be submitted well ahead of your departure date. Most exchange students secure a visitor visa, as this is a cultural exchange of less than 90 days.

As you will be attending a school, you may be required to have a health check. Please refer to the [Australian embassy or consulate](#) closest to where you live to check the specific requirements relevant to you.

□ ARRANGE TRAVEL INSURANCE

You will need to organise travel insurance for the duration of the exchange that includes health cover. This will need to be arranged before you fly to Australia. Once you are at Christ Church, the School will provide comprehensive 24/7 insurance for the duration of the exchange program.

Please note that if you are arriving in Australia before the official exchange dates, or staying in the country after the exchange, you will not be covered by Christ Church's insurance policy during those dates and will need to get additional insurance for that period.

□ ARRANGE AN INTERNATIONAL DEBIT CARD

You will require money for incidental purchases during your time in Australia. One option is to organise an international debit card in the weeks leading up to your trip. Your host family will provide all meals and cover costs of most general living expenses, but there will be times when you may want to buy items or gifts.

□ ARRANGE AN INTERNATIONAL SIM CARD

You will need to organise international phone access. You may be able to organise an international SIM card in your home country or you can ask your Christ Church host about getting a prepaid SIM card in Australia.

□ CONTACT YOUR HOST FAMILY

There is no formal process for this, however we recommend that you contact your host family before you go on exchange. Many students get to know more about their host family via email and FaceTime in the months leading up to the exchange.

You can tell your host family about yourself and your family, what subjects and activities you like at school, and what you are looking forward to for the exchange program.

It is important that you share your flight details with your host family as they will meet you at the Perth airport.

□ COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS

You will need to check that you meet [Western Australia's COVID-19 requirements](#) to avoid complications entering the country.

□ CREATE CONSENT2GO ACCOUNT

Christ Church uses an online platform called Consent2Go to collect important family and medical information and for obtaining parent permission for school incursions and excursions.

After your application has been approved, Christ Church will send you a link to Consent2Go and instructions on how to create your Consent2Go account.

It is important that you set up an account in the weeks leading up to your exchange, as it will provide the School with information regarding:

- Parent contact information
- Emergency contact information
- Medical information including your immunisation records
- Care details
- Evidence of international travel insurance policy

☐ DOCUMENTATION

We strongly advise you make digital and/or hard copies of important documents to have on hand for any applications and bring with you to Australia in case of emergency, including:

- ☐ Birth certificate
- ☐ COVID-19 vaccination certificate
- ☐ Forms and visas (if required) specific to Australia's travel conditions
- ☐ Second form of identification
- ☐ International travel and health insurance policy

☐ LABEL YOUR LUGGAGE AND POSSESSIONS

Put a luggage tag and colourful ribbon or sticker on your suitcase and backpack so they are easy to identify. Ensure that all your possessions are clearly labelled to avoid getting lost.

☐ MEDICATION

You will need a supply of your medication. Ensure that you have enough supply of prescription medication to last the duration of the exchange. You may also wish to bring a small medical kit, including over the counter medication, such as pain relief.

☐ PASSPORT

Your passport must have six (6) months currency at the time of departure.

☐ PREPARE YOUR UNIFORM AND CLOTHING

During your time at Christ Church, you are required to wear your own school's uniform on campus. Please ensure your haircut meets the Christ Church [presentation standards](#). Pack enough uniform to last you a full school week.

If you do not wear a uniform to your school, neat, smart casual clothing is appropriate. An example of casual clothing for school is chino pants, with a collared shirt and sneakers. We ask that you please wear formal clothes, such as a suit jacket, on days when there is Principal's Assembly or other major school events.

You will have an opportunity to play sport at Christ Church. The School will provide a Christ Church school sports uniform for use during your exchange. Pack your sport shoes, mouthguard, hat, raincoat, and any other sport accessories you may need e.g tennis racquet.

Out of school hours and on weekends, casual clothes suited to the climate can be worn. Make sure you check the weather ahead of your trip so that you are adequately prepared. Pack three washing bags for your laundry.

☐ READ THE HOST FAMILY QUESTIONNAIRE

The School will send you a questionnaire completed by your Christ Church host family. This will detail who will be living in the house, household rules and routines, and what you can expect during a typical day with your host family.

☐ SCHOOL ITEMS

You are not required to bring any electronic devices for school use or textbooks for school, as Christ Church will provide these. Pack a few notebooks and a pencil case for classes.

☐ PACK YOUR BAGS

Check the baggage restrictions of the airline you're flying and make sure your suitcase and carry on are under the weight limit, as you may want to bring back gifts or souvenirs.

In addition to clothing and toiletries, you will need:

- ☐ Passport
- ☐ Phone and phone charger
- ☐ Wallet with debit card
- ☐ A small amount of cash in Australian dollars
- ☐ Digital and/or hard copies of important documents, including a copy of your international travel insurance policy
- ☐ Power adaptors for the country you are visiting
- ☐ Australian power adaptor
- ☐ Sports shoes, mouthguard, hat, any other sport accessories you may need
- ☐ Medicine kit with any prescription medication, sunscreen, basic first aid items including band aids, hand sanitiser, motion sickness tablets, and pain relief medicine

Remember that you will be able to purchase most things in Australia if you forget or lose an item. The most important items that you will need to keep very safe during your exchange are your passport, wallet, phone, and prescription medication.

☐ GET READY FOR YOUR FLIGHT

Check-in online up to 24 hours before your flight. You may have a long flight ahead and time during layovers. Pack travel essentials such as a book, jumper, phone charger, headphones, reusable water bottle, and some light toiletries including deodorant and a toothbrush.

Depending on the duration of your flights and layover, you may also want to consider packing a clean change of clothes.

DURING YOUR EXCHANGE — AT SCHOOL

DAY ONE AT CHRIST CHURCH

On your first day at the School, your host student will take you to the Exchange Co-ordinator's office for a short meeting. You will be introduced to the other boys in tutorial before beginning lessons. Please bring the notebooks, pencil case and other school items you packed so that you are ready to participate in classes on day one. At some stage in the first week, you may meet the principal and be introduced to the entire school at assembly.

ABSENCE

If you are unwell and cannot attend school, you must let your host family know. They will notify Christ Church and your parents as soon as possible. If you fail to attend school, your host family will be contacted and you may be subject to disciplinary consequences in accordance with the School rules.



BOARDING

If your Christ Church host is a boarder, you will spend the duration of your exchange at the Walters House Residential Community at Christ Church, which is a boarding house for Years 9 to 12 boys. Your host family may take you out during breaks or weekends where possible.

Residents of Walters House participate in various weekend activities, such as attending football games, going to the cinema, playing golf, going ice skating, and more.

CHAPEL AND ASSEMBLY

On Thursdays, the Senior School begins the school day with a Chapel service followed by a Principal's Assembly. After assembly, you will go to your tutorial and then commence classes. If you do not wear a uniform to school, please dress in formal clothing for Chapel services, assembly, and other formal events. If you play a musical instrument, you are most welcome to perform at an assembly.

DEVICE AND TEXTBOOKS

You will be issued with a school device and textbooks to use for the duration of your exchange. Your timetable and most of your textbooks are stored on this device.

As the device is school property, you must take care of it and return it to the IT Department on your last day of school. If you damage any items or other school property, you may be charged a fee. You will need to sign a Device Use form from the ICT Department when they provide you with the school device.

A lot of your school work at Christ Church will be done on this device, so it is important that you bring it to school every day.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

At Christ Church, the health and wellbeing of our boys is our top priority. If you feel unwell or get injured while on campus, you can visit the School's Health Centre. The nurses at the Health Centre will notify your host family of your condition and details will be added to your school health record.

The Wynne Centre for Boys' Health and Wellbeing on campus provides onsite psychologists to assist students. You will have access to six sessions with one of our onsite educational psychologists. If you would like to have a session, or to speak with someone about your mental health, you can make an appointment through your Head of House or visit staff at the Centre.

If you are injured at a Christ Church sport match on the weekend, you will receive medical attention from St John Ambulance. Injuries that occur during weekend co-curricular activities will be detailed on your school health record by a Christ Church staff member.

HOMEWORK

You are expected to complete homework and assessments set by Christ Church teachers. Christ Church will not record your academic progress however you are expected to fully immerse yourself in the School's academic program. You can ask Christ Church teachers or your host family for help if required.

INTERNET ACCESS

Christ Church offers all boys access to the internet. The use of the School's network is a privilege and may be revoked if abused.

SCHOOL REFECTORY

Your host family will be responsible for providing meals for the duration of the exchange, including lunches. However, your host may buy lunch at the school canteen, called the Refectory, which is open for morning tea, lunch, and after school each day. Depending on how frequently you will be buying lunch from the Refectory, and the duration of your exchange, there are two options:

1. Purchase lunch vouchers from reception at the Main Administration building for the student to use. Christ Church is a cash-free school, so you cannot buy items at the Refectory using cash. Your host family will provide cash for your vouchers.
2. Organise a cash-free card. You will need to visit the ICT Department to have your photo taken. Please note the card will take at least one week to issue. Your host family is responsible for recharging your cash-free card online.

The cash-free cards can be used to:

- Make purchases at the Canteen, Uniform Shop or Bookroom
- Borrow school library books
- Use public transport (including the school bus services)

SCHOOL RULES

As an ambassador of your school, you are expected to uphold your school values and expectations. You are also required to abide by Christ Church Grammar School rules during the exchange.

Principals at either school have the right to terminate the exchange and send students on the BQD exchange program home at their parents' expense for any major infringement of rules or breach of expectations. If you have any questions about the School rules, you can ask the Exchange Co-ordinator, your Head of House, or your Christ Church host.

TIMETABLE

Before your arrival at Christ Church, the Exchange Co-ordinator will contact you directly to create your timetable, including co-curricular activities and sport. You can contact the Exchange Co-ordinator during the exchange if you would like to change subjects or activities. The School will endeavour to accommodate your timetable preferences.

TRAVEL TO/FROM SCHOOL

Your host family will arrange your transport to and from school, including associated costs.

This may include public transport on the school bus service.

TUTORIAL GROUP

Our philosophy of 'boys mentoring boys' is achieved through our vertical tutorial system. Every morning before classes start, you will attend tutorial with your host, where you will be joined by boys from Years 7 to 12. This is a fantastic way to make friends of different ages, mentor younger students, and learn from older students. Your Tutor will play an important role during your time at Christ Church.

WEEKLY MEETINGS

Each week the Exchange Co-ordinator will meet with you for around 10 minutes to check on your progress in classes, activities and how you are finding your exchange experience more generally.

This is a great opportunity for you to raise any concerns or questions. You can contact the Exchange Co-Ordinator at any time, as they are always available to assist you and to make sure your time here is as enjoyable and exciting as possible.



FRIDAY AFTERNOON ACTIVITY

All exchange students participate in our Environment and Community (ENCOMM) program on Friday afternoons. The ENCOMM program offers Year 10 boys the opportunity to undertake environmental and community work, such as visiting aged care facilities, sorting contributions for charity drives, and planting trees and local parks. The program focuses on the importance of giving to others and being an active member of the community.

MUSIC LESSONS

If you play a musical instrument, you will be offered the opportunity to continue music lessons during your time at Christ Church. You can discuss this with the Exchange Co-Ordinator when you are asked to select subjects for your timetable.

SPORT

You will be involved in a sport of your choice while you are here and represent Christ Church in games each Saturday competing against fellow private schools.

The School will provide you with a sports uniform to compete in. You will also get a chance to participate in sports at a House level.

Christ Church offers a variety of summer and winter sports and availability will vary depending on the term of the exchange program.



VENTURE

If your exchange includes the month of November, you will go on Venture, an Outdoor Education tour that Christ Church has been running for over 30 years. Venture is a challenging and incredible experience, and a rite of passage for all Year 10 boys. During the 11-day journey, you will explore the bushland and coastal settings of D'Entrecasteaux and Walpole-Nornalup National Park on the South West Coast of WA.

The Exchange Co-ordinator will discuss specific requirements for Venture in the weeks leading up to your exchange.

SUMMER SPORTS



Basketball



Cricket



Swimming



Tennis



Volleyball



Water Polo

WINTER SPORTS



AFL



Cross Country



Hockey



Rugby



Soccer



Surfing

DURING YOUR EXCHANGE — AT HOME WITH YOUR HOST FAMILY

COMMUNICATE IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Your host family will act as your guardians during your exchange, so you need to communicate important information to them, such as dietary requirements, allergies or medical conditions. Communicate your overall wellbeing to your host family and they will ensure you receive the appropriate medical advice or counselling.

DOCUMENT THE EXPERIENCE

We strongly encourage you take photos, videos, and keep a journal or blog to document your exchange experience. Not only will these serve as a way for you to cherish the memories of your experience, but will also be great to share with friends, family, and the school community.

GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER

You can ask your host family lots of questions about life in Perth and at Christ Church. Let your host family know what things you would like to do and see during your time in Perth. They will also be keen to learn about your life and school in your country, so you may like to have some photos to share with them.

INCIDENTAL PURCHASES

Your host family will cover your incidental purchases, such as tickets to weekend family activities, meals outside the home, and any trips during your stay. If you would like to buy a gift for family and friends, or items for yourself, you will need to pay for these.

ENJOY WEEKEND TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES

In addition to visiting places of interest around Perth, your host family will involve you in their typical weekend activities, such as sports games or family activities. Your host family will inform your family of any unsupervised outings to ensure their consent. Many Christ Church families arrange group outings with their boys and their exchange students.

Some places of interest, local events, and weekend activities you may wish to consider include:

- Adventure World
- AFL game at Optus stadium
- AQWA
- Art Gallery of Western Australia
- Aviation Heritage Museum
- Barbeque
- Bike ride
- Board game night
- Camping
- Caversham Wildlife Park
- Cinema or theatre show
- Cottesloe Beach
- Fishing
- Fremantle Markets
- Fremantle Prison
- Hiking
- Kings Park
- Lesmurdie Falls
- Miniature golf
- Perth Mint
- Perth Royal Show
- Perth Zoo
- Picnic
- Rottnest Island
- Sculpture by the Sea
- Swan Valley
- WA Maritime Museum
- WA Museum Boola Bardip

LEARN AND RESPECT THE HOUSEHOLD RULES AND ROUTINE

You will be treated as a family member during your stay. The same rules of the household will apply to you as they do the other members of the home.

Your host family will communicate the rules, routine, and expectations of the household at the beginning of your stay, such as meal times and chores, and you are expected to respect these rules.

RELIGIOUS PRACTICE

We encourage students and families participating in the program to embrace the cultural differences that come with an international exchange. As such, it is appropriate to share your personal values and beliefs if you wish to.

Your host family will accommodate any practices that are of significance to you. You are not expected to join religious practices that your host family recognises, such as attending a church service.

After your stay

PROVIDE FEEDBACK TO CHRIST CHURCH

When you have left Perth, the Exchange Co-ordinator will email you requesting feedback. Your comments on the exchange experience are appreciated as they will help us improve the program for future year groups.

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE OF THE PROGRAM

Participating in an international exchange program is a fantastic opportunity and one that you will remember forever. Your classmates, friends, and wider school community will certainly be keen to hear about your experience of life at Christ Church and in Perth. Your school may ask for comments on the program when you return.

STAY IN TOUCH

There is no formal process for this, however we encourage you to stay in contact with your Christ Church host and his family once the program has concluded. Many exchange students and their families maintain the relationships they have built in the BQD program throughout their sons' school years and even go back to visit!



Responsibilities

EXCHANGE STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Abide by the Christ Church school rules and by the [School's values](#) of:
 - **Respect** — for self, others and everything around us
 - **Integrity** — having strong ethics and a true moral compass
 - **Excellence** – a commitment to being the very best one can be in all arenas
 - **Care and Compassion** – kindness and respect for self and others
- Participate actively in class, in the school community, and, if boarding, in events and activities planned for boarders
- Attend school every day unless prior arrangements have been made with Christ Church, home school, or your host family
- Maintain academic standing for the duration of the exchange by completing the required classwork, homework, and assignments set by the host school
- Notify host family or Christ Church of any updates to your health and wellbeing
- Notify host family or Christ Church of any travel updates, such as a delayed flight

CHRIST CHURCH HOST FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Complete a host family questionnaire and return to Christ Church in a timely manner
- Ensure all adults in the household have a valid Working with Children Check
- Ensure prompt collection and delivery of the exchange student to the airport at the beginning and end of his stay
- Provide daily requirements for the exchange student, including accommodation, meals, and transport to and from school
- Provide the exchange student with opportunities to visit places of interest and offering a positive experience in Perth and surrounds
- Cover incidental purchases for the exchange student, including public transport to/from school
- Notify Christ Church Grammar of any concerns or updates regarding the exchange student

CHRIST CHURCH GRAMMAR SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Welcome the exchange student to the School
- Provide Christ Church host families with the exchange student profile, partner school information, and student contact details
- Provide exchange student with a school device, charger and textbooks
- Liaise with the exchange student to create a Nexus account and class timetable before they arrive in Perth
- Notify exchange students' parents/emergency contact of important updates regarding the student's health and wellbeing and school attendance
- Provide the exchange student with comprehensive 24/7 insurance cover for the period of the exchange
- Provide the exchange student with access to the Health Centre and counselling services at the Wynne Centre for Health and Wellbeing
- Provide a cash-free card to the exchange student for use at the Refectory, on public transport and Christ Church's dedicated bus services
- Endeavour to change the exchange student's subjects/activities if requested
- Conduct weekly check-in meetings with the exchange student and his Christ Church host

Please note that Christ Church Grammar School will not:

- Cover any costs associated with damage to the exchange student's school device or textbooks
- Cover costs associated with the exchange student's travel to/from school
- Provide international travel and health insurance for the exchange student when he is not attending School

BQD Contacts

MR NEIL SAGGERS

Exchange Co-ordinator

+61 8 9442 1557

nsaggers@ccgs.wa.edu.au

MRS JO HUDSON

Executive Assistant to
the Exchange Co-ordinator

+61 8 9442 1504

jhudson@ccgs.wa.edu.au

SCHOOL RECEPTION

+61 8 9442 1555

receptionist@ccgs.wa.edu.au







Christ Church Grammar School

PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Building good men



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Queenslea Drive, Claremont, WA 6010 | PO Box 399 Claremont, WA 6910 | (08) 9442 1555 | info@ccgs.wa.edu.au | ccgs.wa.edu.au

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