



STUDENT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

1. Students in the Victoria International High School Program (VIHSP) of the Greater Victoria School District 61:

- must abide by the laws of Canada and by the rules of VIHSP and their school
- may only use drugs if prescribed by a doctor
- are not permitted to purchase or drink alcohol
- are not permitted to enter adult-only establishments such as pornographic shops, adult theatres and/or bars, pubs or nightclubs
- are not permitted to possess or to purchase weapons of any type
- are not permitted to smoke
- are not permitted to be in possession of false identification papers or student cards
- are not permitted to drive any motor vehicle
- must attend school on a regular basis. All absences must be explained by a note from the homestay
- are expected to obey their teachers and follow rules established by Homestay parents including curfews set out in section 5

2. Students are expected to attend all classes and complete all homework and assignments. Students are expected to study/do homework on a daily basis for the minimum of:

Grade 6-8	1-1.5 hours
Grade 9/10	1.5 hours
Grade 11	2 hours
Grade 12	2.5 hours

- students with no formal homework should be reviewing past work, working on subject-specific vocabulary or reading in English
 - students must maintain satisfactory academic achievement to remain in the program at VIHSP.
3. Students are required to fill out and sign a disclosure statement related to health and criminal activity. Should the information provided on the disclosure statement be found incomplete or in error, VIHSP and the School District will take steps to remove the student from the program and the homestay household, with no refunds.

Placement in particular schools is the decision of the VIHSP Director or designate. If a change of school is desired it should be indicated on a Student Intentions form (distributed through the VIHSP International Advisor) for consideration by the Director or designate.

4. While living in a Homestay, students will:

- show respect for their Homestay family and act as a member of the family
- obey family rules
- voluntarily help with household chores
- keep the homestay informed of their whereabouts at all times
- not own pets
- only have sleepovers on weekends with advance permission from the homestay parents of both resident and guest student as well as a follow up the day after.
- students are not permitted to have mixed gender sleepovers. Students are not permitted to have a guest of the opposite gender in their bedroom
- not speak to others about the homestay family's personal affairs
- be given a key to the host household. If the key is lost the student will be required to pay to have the locks changed
- purchase prepaid phone cards to make all long distance calls from the homestay.
- not have homestay families co-sign for contracts such as cell phones
- not make private arrangements or contracts with their Homestay family
- **pay homestay fees** on or before the first day of each month.

Curfews

Students must observe weekend curfews. VIHSP curfew for weekends (Friday and Saturday) are below. Earlier times may be set depending on circumstances:

Grades 6-8	9:30pm
Grade 9	10:00pm
Grade 10	11:00pm
Grade 11	11:30pm
Grade 12	12:00am

All students must:

- be home on or before 6:00pm for dinner on school nights
- to be home by **9:30pm during the week** (Sunday-Thursday). However, some planned activities and events may be exceptions to this rule. Homestay families need to be informed of the student's whereabouts. VIHSP discourages students from hanging out downtown on school nights
- **computers MUST** be turned **off by 11:00pm every night** of the week.

5. Homestay amenities will include:

- room, board and parental guidance; other costs of living in Victoria will be the responsibility of the student
- well-balanced, nutritious snacks and meals
- an adequately heated, properly lit, private bedroom with a door, window, closet, proper bed and study desk
- convenient access to facilities for toilet use and daily bathing
- access to in-home laundry service or equipment
- access to telephone service for local calls
- necessary household items such as bed linen, towels, toilet paper, soap and detergent.

Homestay Placements and Moves:

Homestay placements and all subsequent changes will be done through the VIHSP homestay Office.

One weeks' notice or payment in lieu must be given to the homestay family if a student wishes to relocate.

When a student leaves a homestay one weeks' notice or payment in lieu is not required in the following situations:

- when the change is by mutual agreement of the homestay and student
- the change is initiated at the request of the homestay
- when the student is removed from the homestay in order to protect the safety of the student
- when the student leaves the homestay at the end of a semester or at the conclusion of their program
- when the student is in a short-term or group program.

In the cases outlined above, any balance of the homestay fee will be refunded by the homestay family.

6. Travel

For students planning to travel outside the Greater Victoria area there are specific requirements:

- if travelling independently (by themselves or with other students) students must complete a travel application form, have it signed by their homestay family and submit it to the VIHSP Office no later than 10-14 days prior
- students are not required to submit a travel application form if they will be travelling with their homestay parents, their school or any activities sponsored by VIHSP but students are required to let VIHSP staff know about their plans

- students are permitted to visit relatives, close family friends and student friends only if there will be guaranteed adult supervision and permission of the homestay. These visits should be on an occasional basis and homestay parents should contact parties involved to confirm arrival time, date, place and to make sure there is not inconvenience to the hosting family.

Travel application forms are available from the VIHSP Office, on our website www.studyinvictoria.com under student resources or from International Student Advisors. Students who ask a homestay or school staff member to send their travel application form to the VIHSP office should follow up with the person to ensure the document was sent.

Students are responsible for ensuring they have adequate medical and other insurance while travelling and while away from Victoria.

Additional insurance should be purchased for travel outside Canada.

7. Students are required to report the following to the VIHSP Office:

- any serious physical or mental health issue that the student develops after acceptance into the program, including but not limited to: a contagious disease, pregnancy, eating disorder or addiction. Students may be required to seek treatment for these conditions as a condition for remaining in VIHSP
- information from friends or other students about abuse (verbal, emotional, physical or sexual) or suicidal thoughts
- thefts they become aware of in school or in their homestay
- any damage they have caused in their homestay or to another's personal property.

Students will take measures to keep items of value secure. Students will be responsible for insuring items of value. Students will avoid carrying large sums of cash, borrowing money or items of value.

Failure to abide by the above guideline may result in dismissal from the Victoria International High School Programs of the Greater Victoria School District 61 and termination of the student's visa.

I have read, understand and agree to abide by the terms of the Student Participation Agreement.

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

School: _____