# Host family charter

The Erasmus+ long-term Individual Student Mobility gives students the opportunity to spend 3 months in a school abroad. Staying in a host family is part of the intercultural experience and facilitates the student’s integration in the foreign country and culture.

This charter provides guidelines for the relationship between the hosted student and you as a host family by outlining your role, responsibilities and rights in this respect. To certify that you have read and understood the provisions outlined in this charter, you must sign the charter in your capacity as a representative of the host family.

The student that you will be hosting receives a grant from the EU through the Erasmus Programme contributing to costs incurred during the stay, such as costs linked to local transport or learning materials. The sending school will pay the grant to the student. Furthermore, the student will be covered in terms of medical care and personal liability during the stay through a dedicated insurance.

### Role:

Being a host family is not just about providing board and lodging. You also have two further important functions in relation to the well-being of the student and the success of the stay:

### THE HOSTING FAMILY AS Facilitator:

The stay in a host family constitutes a very important part of the student’s learning process. Through daily interaction with host parents and siblings, the student acquires valuable insights into cultural differences as well as proficiency in a foreign language. It is therefore important that the student is not treated as a guest or lodger, but is integrated into family life to the greatest extent possible.

### Parental authority:

The student is a young person who may have little or no prior experience of the culture and attitudes of your country. The student will consequently need your help in relation to many aspects of daily life. This also means providing clear guidelines for his or her behaviour, what is acceptable and what is not, as a parent or guardian would do.

### Responsibilities:

By signing this charter, you as a host family agree to

* welcome \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name of student) into your home for a duration of \_\_\_ months.
* provide the student with suitable board and lodging free of charge.
* integrate the student to the greatest extent possible into family life.
* inform the student about household rules.
* inform the student about customs and help the student to integrate into the culture and mentality of your country.
* help ensure that the student attends school on a regular basis, including ensuring that adequate transportation facilities between the school and home are available.
* ensure that the student is not left alone overnight (e.g. at weekends or holidays). If this implies significant extra costs, you should agree on them in advance with the student’s parents. If you travel abroad with the student, make sure that you have taken into account the possible insurance and liability implications.
* help ensure that the student observes the rules of conduct for student agreed between the participating schools.
* contact the student’s mentor in the event of any problems.
* agree to keep all personal data concerning the student confidential.
* not terminate the stay of the student abruptly and unilaterally without a prior attempt at mediation (except in the cases outlined below under ‘rights’).
* follow the procedures described in the emergency and contingency management documentation in emergencies.

### Rights:

During the stay in your family, the student will be under your authority, but you are also part of a team. The host school has appointed a tutor for the student, to whom you can turn for information, advice or just to discuss any aspect of the student’s stay in your home. The tutor will also try to mediate in cases where problems between you and the student have reached a stage where you — or the student — deem that outside intervention is required.

Where this is not sufficient, you have the following rights:

* in the event of a serious breach of rules by the student (as defined in the rules of conduct for the action and those defined by the schools), you can ask for the termination of the student’s stay in your home immediately and require that the host school arranges alternative accommodation or repatriation.
* in the event of irreconcilable personal differences between you and the student, and where mediation has been tried and not brought a solution acceptable to you, the host school must provide for alternative accommodation or repatriation of the student within a maximum of 3 days.
* in the event of death, illness or any other serious incident occurring in your family, you can ask the host school to provide urgently for alternative accommodation or repatriation of the student (normally within up to 3 days).

I/We, the undersigned, hereby declare that I/we have read and understood the guidelines in this charter.

Agreed and accepted by:

Place: Date:

Name in capital letters: Signature:

Name in capital letters: Signature: