



Berkeley Guardians

Home from Home



Pupil Guide

Email:

support@berkeleyguardians.com

Website:

www.berkeleyguardians.com

Address:

1 Berkeley Square, Clifton, Bristol BS8 1HL

Registered in England and Wales

Company Number: 12230732

Why do you need us?

All international boarders arriving in the UK are encouraged to have a guardian to take care of them whilst studying here. We ensure that we care for you in a number of ways:

- You will be allocated a Guardian Angel and will be given contact details for this person who will visit you, come to your parents' evenings and keep in contact with your school
- If you require, we will organise a homestay for an exeat weekend, half term or holiday
- We can offer you holiday fun and activities, work experience, internships in different businesses and both UCAS support and for improving your English, A level or GCSE studies

Mrs. Pickles says:



"Having been a boarder myself and then caring for international and British boarders for almost 15 years - I understand quite a lot about how you might be feeling. Always feel you can pick up the phone and talk"

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What will we do?

We have a Head Office in Bristol and will work with you to offer a number of opportunities to help you settle in the UK and at your new school:

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- We will always be on hand 24 hours a day, every day, to make sure you can contact us in any emergency
- We can collect you from the airport and take you to school
- We can take you from school to the airport or organise transport on your behalf
- We will visit you regularly and keep in touch by phone, email or text messages and will encourage you to do the same so that we are on standby should you need us
- We can support and help you set up a bank account and a mobile phone for the UK
- We will ensure you are registered with a local GP and dentist whilst you are in the UK
- We will keep your parents in touch with your achievements, progress and any other information that they may require



What does it mean to stay in a “homestay”?

Homestays are just family homes where people are willing to welcome you under their roof to give you a “home from home” experience, where you will be safe and secure during weekends, holidays or exeat.

- We will match your lifestyle and interest to a suitable host family
- Your Guardian Angel will always be on hand and will keep in touch should you need anything at all

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- We ensure that your homestay is police checked (DBS), all certificates are up to date (eg gas, insurance etc) and that you have suitable accommodation
- Your host family will oversee your pastoral and welfare care and should you become ill will make sure you see a GP and that your Guardian Angel is informed
- Whilst there are curfews and some home rules; it should feel as if you are at home and somewhere to relax or study



Ms Clark says:

“It is so important that you always tell someone where you would like to go, what time you are due back and who you are going with so that the adults around you can be reassured you are safe. I know it might feel that we are all being interfering but it is genuinely because we all care about you.”

Your travel arrangements:

Once you have decided to come to the UK to study at a boarding school or university; Berkeley Guardians can do so much to help you:

- Organise your travel arrangements from home to school or school to home
- Ensure you have a clear travel itinerary and that your school, Guardian Angel and parents also have a copy
- Meet you at the airport and take you to/from school
- Provide you with a letter for travel if you are under 16 years
- We use taxis who have DBS checked their drivers and use only these for transporting pupils and students in our care

Education:

Whether you are looking for a suitable UK school, wanting extra help to cope with GCSEs, A levels or just settling in and needing to improve your English - Berkeley Guardians is there to support. We also offer:

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UCAS - support, advice and help to visit universities in the UK and put in your application with an appropriate personal statement

Internships - we can organise internships for different lengths of time for large and small businesses in the UK Work experience - we can organise work experience for you in line with your interests and needs

Work experience - whether you would like a few days, weeks or longer we will organise your work experience to suit your needs and this will certainly enhance your UCAS application

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