

STRATHMORE SECONDARY COLLEGE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

HOMESTAY FAMILY



2024/2025

College Principal:

Michael PAKAKIS

Administration:

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Cathy Di Battista

Contents

The Role of the Homestay Provider	3
Homestay Guidelines 2024/2025	3 - 5
Setting Household Rules.....	5
Communication Process	5
Grievance Process	5
Insurance/Medical procedures.....	6
Finance	6
Costs	6
Freedom and Responsibilities.....	6
Guidelines for Appropriate Behaviour	6 - 7
International Student Orientation (Living with a host family)	7 - 8
Understanding Cultural Differences	8
Strathmore Secondary College Homestay Policy.....	9
Application to Stay Away Overnight.....	10
Strathmore Secondary College Child Safe Environment Policy 2023	11 - 14
Strathmore Secondary College Critical Action for Homestay Families	15 - 16

THE ROLE OF THE HOMESTAY PROVIDER (HOST FAMILY)

This Homestay Family Guide is to assist host families who have agreed to accommodate international students in their homes for a designated period. It is the role of the school to assist host families with any difficulties associated with their host student.

Homestay providers are required to provide a warm, friendly and flexible approach to their international student in order to provide for a safe, comfortable and caring environment, while keeping in regular contact with the college to ensure a prompt response when difficulties arise.

Homestay providers should not have to change their daily routine greatly (except perhaps in transport assistance) to accommodate their international student. Homestay providers should be flexible and sensitive to the cultural differences between Australia and the country of origin of the international student and should encourage them to always speak English.

HOMESTAY GUIDELINES 2024/2025

1. A Student under 18 years of age who is studying in a Government School must live in a homestay. Older students may also live in a homestay and are expected to follow the homestay guidelines. All people living in the home, who are over 18, require a 'Working with Children Check'.
2. The homestay provider is required to provide three meals per day along with snacks as appropriate. It is expected that the international student will have evening meals with the family. This allows for improved communication and for the family and the international student to get to know each other. The student's weekly homestay fee includes all meals so if a family dines out or purchases takeaway meals, the student's meal should be paid for by the provider.
3. Homestay includes all expenses associated with food and shelter, including three meals a day, seven days a week, provision of facilities (e.g. towels, blankets, sheets, eating utensils) gas & electricity and cleaning (e.g. cleaning of room, washing of clothes and bed linen.) Cleaning of clothes and bedroom can be negotiated chores.
4. Homestay providers are asked to help the student on their arrival with public transport, location of local shops, arranging bank account, a SIM card and school uniform. International students aged 16 years of age or under can purchase and travel on children's MYKI public transport tickets and they should carry a form of age identification. Students aged 17 and 18 are eligible for concession travel but must have PTV school student ID (applications available at school or train station) and should carry a form of age identification.
5. Homestay students pay \$350 inclusive of internet access. This is not to be changed or negotiated by the student or homestay.
6. The student or parent must transfer Homestay payment electronically to the homestay provider. Payments must be made either fortnightly or four weeks in advance as arranged.
7. Students are required to stay at the homestay for a term at a minimum. Only in exceptional circumstances will we allow students to move earlier. Students may not arrange a move of homestay without consulting the International Student Manager.
8. Students are required to give two weeks' notice if they wish to move from the homestay. Homestays are required to give two weeks' notice if they wish the student to leave the home. Ms Di Battista must be notified immediately of this intention.
9. Students may return to their home countries during term holidays and are charged \$140 a week (\$20 per night) to hold their room over a holiday period – up to a maximum of \$700. This payment is to ensure that the room is available upon the student's return. Students must tell Ms Di Battista and their Homestay parents if they are returning home and a Holiday Plan must be completed, signed by the homestay and submitted along with a copy of the airline ticket to Mrs Di Battista.

10. If a student attends a school camp and stays overnight they will only be charged \$20.00 per night that they are away.
11. Students are provided with their own bedroom with study facilities (e.g. bookcase, desk and study light) together with the use of living areas.
12. House rules will be clearly explained to students on their arrival. To help students feel part of the family, they can be encouraged to do minor chores.
13. Students should ask their homestay to contact Ms Di Battista at Strathmore SC if they are unable to attend school. This must be done before 10am on the day of the absence. A medical certificate is required for multiple absences and missed major tests (SACs).
14. It is recommended, but not mandatory, that homestay families attend parent/teacher nights and/or College functions.
15. All homestay families receive a copy of the school's commitment to Child Safety, and an edited version of the policy that applies to homestays. Students also receive a fact sheet about child abuse. Homestays and students are provided with instructions on how to report any suspected or real event of child abuse.
16. Students must always be contactable by homestays after school hours.
17. Students are not permitted to stay away overnight from their homestay unless for an approved school event.
18. If the student wants to stay at a friend's house overnight this must be arranged with Ms Di Battista at least 7 working days beforehand. Written permission must be provided by the student's parent/s and everyone over the age of 18, in that household, must have a current Working with Children Card.
19. Students under 18 years of age are not allowed to travel independently outside Victoria.
20. Students will need to communicate with homestay providers to notify them of a change in plan or arrangements. Curfew times, travel arrangements and social outings should be mutually agreed upon - with consideration given to the age and maturity of the student.
21. Students are generally not permitted to go out late during the school week except for college functions. Students may be out later Friday or Saturday with prior arrangement with the homestay.
22. House rules may need to be negotiated on the matter of visiting friends and/or staying for meals.
23. Students will have their own key to the residence. Privacy is important and the personal possessions and space of students should be respected.
24. Students need to pay for any significant breakages or damage (a minimum of three quotes will be required to be obtained by the homestay and provided to the parents and Ms Di Battista).
25. Homestays must provide access to the internet. Students should be discouraged from downloading large files such as movies and music. If there is a problem, contact Ms Di Battista.
26. The homestay provider is required to provide support to the international student in seeking medical assistance. The homestay provider must then be responsible for notification to the school regarding the medical assistance provided. Students are covered by Medibank (or other) Private Health Insurance and are covered by the Ambulance Subscribers scheme.
27. The homestay commits to having smoke detectors appropriately installed (mandatory) in working order see MFB website for more information: <http://www.mfb.vic.gov.au/Community-Safety/Home-Fire-Safety/Smoke-Alarms.html>
28. Please ring your home & contents insurer and inform them you have an international student in your home on an ongoing basis.
29. The homestay provider must notify the college of any changes to the student's living arrangements once there is a change from the initial agreement or after one of the college-organised inspections. For example, someone else living in the house, absence of one of the homestay parents for more than a few days or when a member of the household turns 18 years of age.

30. The homestay provider is required to provide time for a college-organised homestay inspection once per semester to be conducted by the International Student Program Manager.

Cathy Di Battista, International Student Manager

0417 301 835

caterina.dibattista@education.vic.gov.au

SETTING HOUSEHOLD RULES

The following issues commonly need clarification when integrating a new student into your family.

If you inform your international student about the rules in your household, it will assist him/her to settle into a routine quickly and easily.

- Appropriate times for using bathrooms, including time spent in the shower
- Washing of laundry
- Mealtimes
- Turning lights out and hours of internet use
- Other house rules

COMMUNICATION PROCESS

Generally, in most situations, the homestay provider would deal with many of the 'low level' issues themselves. However, it is recommended that the college be kept informed regarding inappropriate behaviour and issues that arise where there is a concern.

In the event of a problem, the homestay provider should attempt to resolve those difficulties. The homestay provider or the student is required to communicate with the International Student Manager regarding any concerns.

The most commonly experienced difficulties regarding international students include:

- Too quiet, too shy, would not talk to us or other household members.
- Homesickness
- Shower problems
- Provision of appropriate diet
- Unsure how much freedom to give.

GRIEVANCE PROCESS

If homestay providers have any issues in relation to their student, they should firstly speak to the International Student Manager. Homestay providers are encouraged to discuss issues initially with the student where appropriate but then communicate with the International Student Manager.

INSURANCE/MEDICAL PROCEDURES

All international students have private health insurance. Should a student become ill while at homestay, the provider will:

1. notify the International Student Manager
2. support the student in seeking medical assistance and a medical certificate as appropriate.
3. the student may be required to pay for medical consultations and should obtain a receipt for insurance purposes. Medibank do have a list of Direct Billing doctors, and the International Student Manager will be able to assist you with finding those closest to you.

COSTS

Public Transport	International students will cover all their own public transport costs.
Books, Uniforms	International students will cover these costs.
Outings, Excursions	The homestay provider is not expected to pay for the international student to attend excursions or school outings.

FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It is of primary importance that the safety and the wellbeing of international students is maintained by all. Arrangements for travel after dark need to be agreed between the family and the student.

It is expected that the homestay provider treats their international student as though he/she is a member of their family/household. The same standards should apply as if the student is a natural member of the family.

When agreeing arrangements for outings the homestay provider should be mindful of the age, maturity and reliability of their international student. It is also the case that an 18-year-old international student is still a homestay student and not a tenant and that there is a duty of care and responsibility required. The college should be notified through the International Student Manager of any concerns or risks. On some occasions it is necessary for the college to seek parental approval.

GUIDELINES FOR APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

The best way of ensuring that behaviour is appropriate is to abide by the Australian/Victorian laws, comply with the guidelines set down by the college and exercise common sense and caution regarding the student in your care.

In exercising 'common sense and caution' homestay providers should consider the significant cultural differences between their own notions of appropriate behaviour and that of their students.

Examples of behaviour that can be discriminatory or sexual harassment include:

- acting towards, or speaking to a person in a manner which threatens or vilifies that person
- making jokes, suggestive comments or offensive gestures related to a person's race, colour, ethnic origin, disability, gender or sexual characteristics
- distribution or display of material (including through e-mail) which may be offensive, such as sexually explicit posters or pictures, racist or sexist jokes or cartoons
- persistent questions about a person's private life
- persistent comments about appearance, size, clothing
- demands for sexual favours, either directly or by implication
- unwanted and deliberate physical contact
- indecent assault or other criminal offences

This should be understood in the context of the Child Safety Standards and other relevant policies and documents. Nevertheless, it is not our intention to stifle the warm and friendly relationship between the homestay provider and their families and international students. Homestay providers and their families need to be aware that problems in this area do arise from time to time, and that there are legal requirements to exercise all appropriate care and consideration towards students in their care.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION (LIVING WITH A HOST FAMILY)

The following is a list of points that are highlighted when we orientate students upon arrival:

1. International students are encouraged to approach their homestay family if they have a problem or concern and to work it through with their host family, then approach the college.
2. International students should obey their homestay provider as they would their own parent and should respect the homestay family and not treat the home as if it is a hotel.
3. International students are informed that the homestay provider and their family will always have their wellbeing and safety in mind.
4. International students are encouraged to always speak English.
5. Not to consume alcohol or tobacco if underage, or drugs at any stage.
6. To always abide by the State and Federal laws.
7. International students are required to adhere to schedules and timetables – especially to wait at the agreed time and place when being picked up by their host family. If there are any schedule changes the international student is to inform the host family of them.
8. International students are informed that they must pay for their own personal care/hygiene products.
9. International students have been told that all household rules apply to them as they do to their host brothers and sisters.

10. International students have been told they should be wary about being approached by people they do not know and discuss any concerns they may have with their homestay provider and their college.

UNDERSTANDING CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

The following are points that highlight cultural differences:

1. You may need to explain to your international student how to use the sheets and blankets on the bed (which layer to lie between) as some cultures might only have a bottom-sheet and quilt (or equivalent).
2. You may need to explain where the wet towels go, or they may turn up in some very peculiar spots.
3. Some international students may be very shy about having their underwear washed so they never bring them out. Come to some agreement as to how this will be managed.
4. Whereas in Australia it is common to express opinions readily, international students may be more modest and reserved about this.
5. In the beginning international students will not always feel confident enough to ask for food, drink, etc. so offer it to them.
6. If time permits, contact your student before they arrive. This will make the initial meeting feel less awkward.

STRATHMORE SECONDARY COLLEGE HOMESTAY POLICY	
ENDORSED BY COLLEGE COUNCIL:	2021
TO BE REVIEWED:	2024

RATIONALE

This policy is designed to be consistent with the DET International Students' Quality Standards. When parents opt for DET to arrange homestay accommodation, the College becomes responsible for provision of accommodation, support and general welfare to the student. These arrangements shall be in place for the period that the student will be under 18 while in Australia. This policy has been developed to meet the requirements of the ESOS National Code and Student visa (500) which require that appropriate arrangements have been made for the accommodation, welfare and support of students less than 18 years of age.

- The College will organise high quality homestay accommodation that provides a safe, comfortable and caring environment.
- The College employs a Homestay Coordinator to assist the International Student Manager by overseeing the Homestay program, including interviewing all prospective homestays for suitability. The Homestay Coordinator and the International Student Manager collaborate to resolve issues and monitor the care of students in those homestays.
- Students and homestays will be provided with Homestay Guidelines that outline the house rules and requirements as well as homestay costs and methods of payment.
- The College will monitor progress of homestay arrangements, with at least twice-yearly visits and/or contact.
- Students, parents and homestays will be asked to sign a Homestay Agreement that acknowledges acceptance of the school's Homestay Guidelines and Child Safety Policy.
- Complaints that cannot be resolved by either the homestay provider or the student should be referred to the International Student Manager.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as part of the college's three-year review cycle. This policy was last ratified by College Council in October 2021 and is due to be updated and re-endorsed in 2024.

STRATHMORE SECONDARY COLLEGE
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
APPLICATION TO STAY AWAY OVERNIGHT
(copies available from the International Student Manager)

STUDENT ID: _____ STUDENT NAME: _____

STUDENT MOBILE NUMBER: _____

Written parent approval must be provided with this form.

PLEASE RETURN TO THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MANAGER AT LEAST **7 WORKING DAYS PRIOR
TO YOUR FIRST NIGHT AWAY**

If you are planning overnight time away from your Homestay, please fill in the required details below:

Departure Date from Homestay:	
Return Date to Homestay:	
Number of nights away from Homestay:	
Brief description of holiday plan:	
Name of responsible adult with whom you will be staying:	
Date of Birth;	
Mobile phone number:	
Address where you will be staying:	
Working With Children Card number:	
Homestay Provider name:	
Homestay Provider mobile number:	
Homestay Provider's signature:	

*If your plans change at any time, please contact the International Student Manager,
Cathy Di Battista (w) 9379 7999 or (m) 0417 301 835
Email : caterina.dibattista@education.vic.gov.au*

STRATHMORE SECONDARY COLLEGE CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENT POLICY 2024

Amended version relevant for homestays of international students

The complete policy can be found here - [Child Safe Environment Policy](#)

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

Strathmore Secondary College has zero tolerance for child abuse. The College provides a child-safe environment in which children and young people are and feel safe and are confident that their voices are heard when decisions affecting their lives are made. Particular attention is paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and those from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as those with a disability.

Strathmore Secondary College is committed to the safety and well-being of all children and young people. The **Child Safe Policy** will be the primary focus of the care and decision-making...Every person involved in Strathmore Secondary College has a responsibility to understand the importance of the specific role he/she plays, both individually and collectively, to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people are at the forefront of everything that is done and every decision that is made.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STAFF (INCLUDING VOLUNTEERS, [HOMESTAYS], CONTRACTORS)

The staff Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any opportunities for child abuse or harm. It also assists in understanding how to avoid or better manage risky behaviours and situations.

Acceptable Behaviours

As staff, volunteers, [homestays], contractors, and any other member of the school community involved in child-related work individually, the school is responsible for supporting and promoting the safety of children by:

- always upholding the statement of commitment to child safety and adhering to Strathmore Secondary College's Child Safe Policy
- treating students and families in the school community with respect, both within and without the school environment as part of normal social and community activities
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of students, particularly when they report that they or another child have been abused or that they are worried about their own safety or that of another child
- promoting cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of students with culturally and/or linguistically diverse background
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of students with a disability
- reporting any allegations of child abuse or other child safety concerns to the school's leadership
- understanding and complying with all reporting or disclosure obligations (including mandatory reporting) as they relate to protecting children from harm or abuse
- ensure as quickly as possible that the student(s) are safe and protected from harm, if child abuse is suspected.

Unacceptable Behaviours

Staff, volunteers, [homestays], contractors, and other member of the school community involved in child-related work must **not**:

- ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse
- develop a relationship with any student that could be seen as favouritism or amount to 'grooming' behaviour (for example, offering gifts) [please note that this is discretionary for homestays]
- exhibit behaviours or engage in activities with students which may be interpreted as abusive and not justified by the educational, therapeutic or service delivery context
- ignore behaviours by other adults towards students when they appear to be overly familiar or are behaving inappropriately in any other way
- discuss content of an intimate nature or use sexual innuendo with students, except where it occurs relevantly in the context of parental guidance, delivering the education curriculum or a therapeutic setting
- treat a child unfavourably because of his or her disability, age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality or ethnicity
- communicate directly with a student through personal or private contact channels (including by social media, email, instant messaging, texting etc.) except when that communication is reasonable in all circumstances [e.g. homestay communications], related to schoolwork or extra-curricular activities or when there is a safety concern or other urgent matter
- photograph or video a child in a school environment apart from in accordance with school policy or when required for duty of care purposes
- in the school environment or at other school events where students are present, consume alcohol contrary to school policy or take illicit drugs under any circumstances

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Strathmore Secondary College is committed to the ISP program providing a safe environment for all students in the:

- Student Exchange Program
- Homestay families - organised by school
- Homestay families - organised by [overseas parent – 3rd party]
- International School Program

HUMAN RESOURCES, PRACTICES AND TRAINING

Strathmore Secondary College applies best practice standards in the recruitment and screening of staff [and homestays], and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that it engages the most suitable and appropriate people to work with children. It ensures that staff members are vetted through its induction program [and homestays through the homestay visits and induction program]. All prospective staff are required to undergo National Criminal History Records check [and all people over 18 years old in a homestay family maintain a valid Working with Children Check]. Teachers Full VIT registration is required of all teachers.

PROCESS FOR REPORTING TO AND REPORTING OF SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE

Strathmore Secondary College has clear expectations for staff, visitors, volunteers, [homestays] or others connected with the school environment to make a report about a child or young person who may need protection.

SEE ATTACHED SHEET: STRATHMORE SECONDARY COLLEGE CRITICAL ACTIONS FOR HOMESTAY FAMILIES

MANDATORY REPORTING

Any homestay provider who has grounds to suspect abusive activity must contact Cathy Di Battista, International Student Manager, on 0417 301 835.

Any staff member, volunteer or contractor who has grounds to suspect abusive activity must immediately notify the appropriate child protection service or police together with advising the school's Child and Safety Officer.

The following individuals are mandatory reporters under the *Children, Youth and Families Act 2005* (Vic):

- Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) registered teachers, including principals
- School staff who have been granted permission to teach by the VIT
- registered medical practitioners and nurses
- registered psychologists
- all members of the police force
- People in religious ministry
- Staff who provide direct support to students for mental, emotional or psychological wellbeing, including (but not limited to) school health and wellbeing staff, primary welfare coordinators, student wellbeing coordinators, mental health practitioners, chaplains, and Student Support Services staff

All mandatory reporters must make a report to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Child Protection as soon as practicable if, while carrying out their professional roles and responsibilities, they form a belief on reasonable grounds that:

- a child has suffered, or is likely to suffer, significant harm because of physical abuse and/ or sexual abuse, and
- the child's parents have not protected, or are unlikely to protect, the child from harm of that type.

A mandatory reporter who fails to comply with this legal obligation may be committing a criminal offence. It is important for all staff at SSC to be aware that they are legally obliged to make a mandatory report on each occasion that they form a reasonable belief that a child needs protection and they must make a mandatory report even if the principal does not share their belief that a report is necessary.

At our school, all mandated school staff must undertake the *Mandatory Reporting and Other Obligations eLearning Module* annually. We also require all other staff to undertake this module, even if they are not mandatory reporters.

For more information about Mandatory Reporting see the Department's *Policy and Advisory Library: [Protecting Children — Reporting and Other Legal Obligations](#)*.

The Crimes Act 1958 and Children's Youth and Families Act 2005 clarify the obligations to make a mandated report if one has reasonable suspicion of any form of abuse. More information can be found at this link: [Crimes Act 1958](#).

Important definitions as provided by Ministerial Order 870 including:

Child abuse:

- (i) any act committed against a child involving:
 - a sexual offence or
 - an offence under section 49B(2) of the Crimes Act 1958 (grooming)

- (ii) the infliction, on a child, of
 - physical violence
 - serious emotional or psychological harm
 - serious neglect

Child-connected work is defined as authorized by the school governing authority and performed by an adult in a school environment while children are present or reasonably expected to be present.

Child safety is defined as matters related to protecting all children from child abuse, managing the risk of child abuse, providing support to a child at risk of child abuse, and responding to incidents or allegations of child abuse.

STRATHMORE SECONDARY COLLEGE CRITICAL ACTION FOR HOMESTAY FAMILIES

Responding to Incidents, Disclosures and Suspicions of Child Abuse

This procedure also applies for any event that can seriously affect the safety of the child.

YOU SHOULD TAKE ACTION:

As a homestay parent, you play a **critical role** in protecting children in your care. You **should** act, by following the critical actions, as soon as you witness an incident, receive a disclosure or form a reasonable belief that a child has, or at risk of being abused. You **should** act if you form a suspicion and or reasonable belief, even if you are unsure and have not directly observed child abuse (e.g. if the victim or another person tells you about the abuse).

ACTION 1: RESPONDING TO AN EMERGENCY

If there is no risk of immediate harm go to ACTION 2

If a child is at immediate risk of harm you must ensure their safety by:

- separating alleged victims and others involved
- administering first aid if you can
- call 000 for urgent medical and/or police assistance to respond to immediate health or safety concerns
- contact SSC International Student Manager who will immediately notify the **School Principal** at the school for future liaison with Police
- ***Where necessary you may also need to maintain the integrity of the potential crime scene and preserve evidence.***

ACTION 2: REPORTING TO AUTHORITIES (Turn over for relevant emergency contact numbers)

You should report all incidents, suspicions and disclosures of child abuse as soon as possible. Failure to report physical and sexual child abuse may amount to a criminal offence.

VICTORIA POLICE: If you believe a child has been abused (including grooming), or is at risk of being abused, contact local police station or on 000 if it's an emergency.

SCHOOL - You should also report the suspected abuse to the International Student Manager who will immediately notify the School Principal (who will contact Security Services and DHS if appropriate). The IS Manager will also inform DET International Division.

ACTION 3: CONTACTING PARENTS

The school principal is responsible and must consult with Department Health and Human Services - Child Protection or Victoria Police to determine what information can be shared with parents. If parents are to be provided with details, ISC will organise assistance to contact parents in their language.

ACTION 4: PROVIDING ONGOING SUPPORT

Strathmore SC must provide support for children impacted by abuse. This should include the development of a Student Support Plan or Safety Plan, referral to wellbeing professionals, etc. SSC will work with you to ensure your homestay student is provided with appropriate support. You **must** follow the Critical Actions every time you become aware of a further instance or risk of abuse. This includes reporting new information to authorities

*If you believe that a child is not subject to abuse, but you still hold **significant concerns** for their wellbeing you should still act. This may include seeking advice from the school or Victoria police*

INFORMATION FOR HOMESTAYS:

PROTECTING CHILDREN/INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM ABUSE

Children have the right to be safe and protected at school, at home and in the community. As adults we play a critical role in protecting them from all forms of abuse.

As a **homestay parent**, you have the responsibility for protecting and caring for **homestay students**. You also play a critical role in identifying and responding to suspected abuse within the community. In fact, it may amount to a criminal offence if you fail to report suspected child sexual abuse.

WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE?

Child abuse means actions that hurt a child or teenager. Child abuse can include physical abuse, sexual abuse, grooming, emotional or psychological harm, neglect, or family violence.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS THAT A CHILD HAS BEEN ABUSED?

There are a range of physical and behavioural indicators of child abuse.

- A change in a child's behaviour, e.g. withdrawal, regressive behaviour
- Physical indicators of abuse, e.g. unexplained bruise
- An inappropriate relationship between an adult and a child, e.g. unexplained gifts or phone/email contacts

HELP TO KEEP HOMESTAY STUDENTS SAFE

Where appropriate, have a chat to homestay student/students and make sure that they know that no one can threaten, hurt or touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Strathmore SC College will also be supporting international students in learning about their rights to be safe and respected.

If you have any concerns about the student talk to the International Student Coordinator, principal or another staff member at the school about your concerns. You can also raise this matter with DHHS Child Protection and the Victoria Police. **REFER TO CRITICAL ACTION FOR HOMESTAY FAMILIES**

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Victoria Police (24 hour services)	000
Department of Health and Human Services – Child Protection	1300 475 170 (switchboard) 131 278 (after hours: 5pm -9am)
Department of Health and Human Services	Local Government Areas (LGAs) Moonee Valley & Merri-bek Council 1300 664 977
Department of Education and Training	Footscray Office: 1300 333 232
Strathmore Secondary College	General Office (03) 9379 7999
Principal	Michael PAKAKIS 0407 153 033
International Student Manager	Cathy Di Battista 0417 301 835