Celtic English Academy

Homestay Accommodation









Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

2021/2022

Accredited by the BRITISH COUNCIL for the teaching of English in the UK

MEMBER ENGLISH UK

IALC

Celtic English Academy

What types of homestay accommodation can I choose?
There are two types of homestay accommodation you can choose from.

- There is a standard option where you live in a single room with a shared bathroom.
- The second option is a superior room which means you will have a private bathroom. Superior rooms are very limited.

Can I book a shared room?
Yes, students can share a room and a bathroom with their fellow students. The shared room option is only available if two students book the room together.

Will I get my own room?
You can choose to book either a single room, shared room or a room with a private bathroom with a homestay provider. If you book a shared room in homestay accommodation you will be placed with another student of the same sex and of similar age, each with a single bed (only if booked together).

If you book standard homestay, you will have your own room in the house with access to a shared bathroom. If you book superior homestay, you will have your own room in the house with access to a private bathroom just for your use.

Your room will have furniture and it will come with a bed, desk and storage for your clothes. Bed linen and towels are provided by the homestay provider.

Do I have to clean my room?
Your homestay provider will clean your room, but you should keep it neat and tidy by making your own bed and putting your clothes away.

Will my accommodation be near the school?
All of our homestay providers are located within 6 miles of the academy with easy access to public transportation. It means you should get to Celtic within 5 to 45 minutes' travelling from your home.

How can I get to school?
You can come to school by bus or train, or on foot. Your homestay provider will be within 5 to 45 minutes' travelling time from Celtic by public transportation.

Are meals included in the price?
There are two meals provided daily by your host family: breakfast and evening meal. Full-board (3 meals) is provided at the weekend.

You can also choose a full-board option, which also includes a packed lunch each weekday at an additional cost of £15/week. Full-board is compulsory for all students under 18.

Celtic English Academy is close to the city centre and the university area of Cardiff. If you want to have lunch, you will find plenty of options to buy some food at very affordable prices.

Can I wash my clothes?
Students should be able to do one washing machine load of laundry per week. Please discuss with your homestay provider whether you should do it yourself in their machine or whether they will do it for you.

Can I use the Internet?
All our homestay providers have internet access either through a broadband-wired connection or Wi-Fi. There may be usage restrictions on the amount of time or downloading you are permitted to do in the home. Please ask the homestay provider upon your arrival.

Can I stay an extra night?
Yes. But it is subject to charge and availability. Please contact our Accommodation Officer if you wish to extend your stay. Every extra night in a single room costs £22 and £25 between 29th May – 25th September 2022. An extra night in a superior room costs £27 and £30 during our summer (29th May to 25th September 2022).

Can I use a shower? When can I use the shower?
Everyone in the homestay accommodation needs to use the bathroom and there is often only one bathroom in the home. You will need to ask your host when is the best time to have your bath or shower. Towels are provided by your homestay provider, but they may ask you to provide your own toiletries such as soap, toothpaste and shampoo.

Are there any pets in the homestay?
Many households in the UK have a dog or cat and they often live in the house, which might be strange depending on where you are from. Many people in the UK treat their pets as part of their family and those pets usually sleep inside the house too. They are usually very well trained and friendly to visitors. If you are allergic to animals or prefer not to stay with homestay providers who have pets, please inform us on your application form.

Can I smoke in the house?
Most homestay providers only let students smoke outside the house. Although some of them do not accept any smokers in their accommodation, most of them are happy for you to smoke in their garden or dedicated smoking area. If you are a smoker, please inform us on the application form so we can make sure to place you in a homestay where you can smoke. On your arrival, please speak to your homestay provider to check where you can or can't smoke in the accommodation.

Celtic English Academy

Can I prepare my meals? Can I use the kitchen?
Although cooking facilities are not included (access to these is at the host's discretion), some hosts allow students to prepare their own food in the kitchen, but you should always check with them. Some of our homestay providers don't allow our students to bring certain types of food (due to their religious beliefs e.g. pork products for Muslim, pork products and shellfish for Jewish homes) into the house. Therefore, it is very important for you to check with them on your arrival.

Is there any supplement in summer?
Yes. There is a summer supplement cost of £15 per week for homestay between 29th May – 25th September 2022.

What happens if I have a special dietary requirement?
If you have specific dietary requirements (halal, vegan, vegetarian, gluten free, dairy free, lactose intolerance, nut allergy, shellfish allergy) please inform the school at the time of booking, on your application form.

Can I contact the homestay provider before arriving in the UK?
Yes. You can contact your homestay provider. Celtic will provide you with their contact details.

How many people will live at the house?
It all depends on the family. Some families have children, others don't. Our homestay provider could also be a single mother or father. Many homestay providers have pets. They are often considered part of the family.

Some of our homestay providers may also host more than one student (up to 4 max) at their house at the same time. We aim to place just one student of the same nationality at the same provider, but during the busy times of the year, we might need to place more than one. Our Accommodation Officer will do her best to make our students feel like home.