



Student Agreement – Parent Authorisation for Student to Exchange

Below are a few things that you need to consider carefully, understand and agree to as part of your exchange as a Bishop Drutt College student. While on exchange you are acting as an ambassador for Australia and more specifically for Bishop Drutt College.

This is a position not to be taken lightly, as your time at your exchange school leaves a deep and lasting impression and one that may influence future exchange prospects between this school and Bishop Drutt College. To help you with this, please read and understand the following points and why they are in place.

Behaviour Expectations of the Participant

- You must abide by the regulations of the host school.
- You should take the opportunity to embrace what the host school is about, act positively as a member of the school, boarding house or host family and fulfil appropriate responsibilities.
- While visiting the host country you must abide by all their laws. You need to familiarise yourself with the major differences with Australian law, through your host family and the International Program Coordinator of your host school.
- You may be permitted to travel only when you are accompanied by a host school staff member or host parent, or when participating in a trip organised by the host school or host parent. At any other time it is with the express permission of the host parent or the International Program Coordinator.
- You must abide by the *Mobile phone policy* and *ICT network and internet use guidelines* of BDC while on exchange and respect the social media rules of the school that is hosting you.
- You are required to submit a written report on your exchange for publication in the Bishop Drutt College annual Etcetera magazine, and make a presentation about your experiences during the exchange to a school assembly and at any other school function dealing with Round Square or student exchanges.
- You must email the BDC International Program Coordinator regularly while on exchange to provide an update on your experiences and any problems that may occur.

Engaging in any of the following acts during the period of the exchange can potentially jeopardise the continuation of the exchange:

- driving a motorcycle or motor vehicle without express permission
- absenteeism from school without proper reasons
- possession or use of a narcotic drug
- disobeying school rules regarding alcoholic beverages and smoking
- disobeying other published rules and regulations of the host school.

Exchange Placement Profile

Student name _____

Program dates _____

Host school name _____

Address _____

Country _____

Host school Round Square Coordinator _____

Coordinator's email address _____

Coordinator's phone number _____

Housing and accommodation _____

Participant Obligations Relating to Medical Needs and Insurance

By signing this agreement, I consent:

1. To provide Bishop Drutt College with requested medical information.
2. To bear all financial responsibility for any medical treatment arising from my participation in Bishop Drutt College's Round Square Exchange Program, and specifically to obtain and maintain coverage throughout the exchange under a policy of comprehensive health and accident insurance. Such policy shall provide coverage for injuries and illnesses I sustain or experience, or as a consequence of my participation in the Round Square exchange. Bishop Drutt College shall not provide medical insurance for, or assume financial responsibility for, any injury or illness I may incur while on Round Square exchange.

Round Square Disclaimer

'Round Square's role in student exchanges is one of facilitator, enabling Round Square Candidate and Member Schools to connect and organise exchanges for the benefit of the students taking part. Round Square does not organise any exchanges itself and is not therefore responsible for individual exchange arrangements. It is important for students and parents to note that Round Square does not vet or monitor the arrangements made by the schools and does not have any contact with or role in selecting host families.

Round Square provides schools with best practice protocols, but you must satisfy yourselves that the arrangements made by the individual school you are considering allowing your child to visit are appropriate. Round Square therefore accepts no legal responsibility or liability for student exchanges whatsoever.'

Release and Waiver of Liability

In return for Bishop DrUITt College providing for my participation in the exchange and having read and understood this agreement, I hereby voluntarily agree to the following:

I release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue Bishop DrUITt College, its affiliates, trustees, officers, employees or agents, for any liability, claim, and/or cause of action arising out of or related to any loss, damage, injury or harm of any sort, including death or imprisonment, that may be sustained by me, and for damage to any property belonging to me, that occurs as a result of my traveling to or from any site in connection with the exchange, or as a result of my participation in the exchange, except any liability, claims, causes of action, losses, damages or injuries caused directly by the negligent acts or omissions. It is my intent and agreement that the terms of this agreement shall bind any person asserting rights on my behalf, or otherwise asserting claims by or through me, including my spouse, family members, heirs, assigns and personal representatives.

Assumption of Risks of Travel and Program Participation

I understand that participation in Bishop DrUITt College’s Round Square Exchange Program is entirely voluntary and that Bishop DrUITt College makes no representation about the safety or security of the location of the exchange or the modes of travel in connection with the exchange. I understand that risks are inherent in traveling to and living in unfamiliar settings in foreign countries.

I understand that the political, environmental and cultural situations in foreign countries differ from those in my own country and the BDC environment. I understand there are health risks, as well as risks associated with aircraft, motor vehicles, alternative modes of transportation, and potentially poor driving conditions. I also understand that going on exchange in a foreign country subjects me to the laws of that country, which may be significantly different from the laws of Australia.

I have weighed the dangers inherent in international travel and living abroad, the risks presented to my own health and wellbeing, and my desire for personal growth and experience. I acknowledge there may be additional factors of which I am unaware or which have not been brought to my attention.

I agree to accept and assume, knowingly and voluntarily, all risks associated with the exchange whether present or future, known or unknown, arising from or as a result of my voluntary participation in the exchange. I have discussed the risks associated with my participation in the exchange with a parent/guardian as reflected by the signature of such parent/guardian below. I hereby elect to participate in the exchange.

Some Possible Risks

Road traffic accident	Probably the most dangerous activity undertaken while living abroad is traveling in cars or other vehicles. Students should always wear a seat belt. Students should never be driven by a driver without a license or a drunk driver. Students should know the pedestrian rules in their host country. Drivers in many countries do not stop at pedestrian crossings. Take care in countries where the traffic drives on the right side of the road as cars will be coming from unexpected locations.
High-risk activity	Student's parents should communicate in advance with host parents about possible high-risk activities (such as swimming, cycling, sailing, parasailing, parties).
Illness or disease	While living in a foreign country, students may be exposed to different diseases or become ill. Before departing for exchange, students should visit their doctor or a travel clinic to get any necessary immunisations or medications needed for their country (e.g. anti-malarial prophylactic). While in-country, students should take care to ensure their ongoing health (e.g. washing hands before each meal).
Being a victim of crime	Newly arrived travellers are more vulnerable as targets of crime because they: 1) are unfamiliar with their surroundings, 2) might not speak the local language well, 3) have not yet learned the social norms or unwritten rules of conduct, 4) are eager to get to know new people and the local culture. Students should realise that their new friends are a good source of information if they warn of dangers, but as teenagers themselves, they might not be fully accurate when it comes to assessing risks.
Child or sexual abuse	Families depend on the host school to vet and orient host family (if student is living with a family). Student's parents should communicate with and get to know the host family over the phone before the start of exchange. Students should establish a buddy system with someone they trust, so you can let them know if something is making you feel uncomfortable or unsafe.
Failure to obtain travel visa	Student and family need to research whether a visa is needed and to get necessary visa or documentation.
Psychological stress adapting to new environment	Students need to undertake preparatory activities (read exchange information, learn about the host country). While on exchange, students should seek help from adults at host school, from his or her own parents, or from Bishop Drutt College's Round Square Coordinator or exchange mentor.

We, the parents/ guardians, understand and agree to the following:

1. We acknowledge that there may be an administrative fee to pay to the host school. These fees vary from school to school and the amount will be confirmed once the exchange is confirmed. Families whose child is on exchange do not have to pay school fees abroad; however, families agree to continue paying fees to Bishop Drutt College while their child is on exchange.
2. We acknowledge the importance of good communication and commit to provide and maintain active communication during the exchange period.
3. We acknowledge that the primary purpose of the exchange is to experience a period of study at another school in another country, together with all the associated experiences this entails. We understand that there may be educational, linguistic, cultural, spiritual, culinary, climatic, physical and emotional challenges facing our child. We have discussed these with our child and accept these as positive features of any exchange.
4. We accept that the exchange need not take place during a holiday period and that we, with our child, will be responsible for requesting, negotiating and following a supplementary study plan so as to minimise any disruption to their studies.
5. We agree to provide, in conjunction with BDC, complete and accurate travel plans for our child, to the host school's representative and host family.
6. We agree to host a Round Square student. We agree to treat the exchange student like one of the family, to meet the visiting student on their arrival at the airport, and to return them to the airport, provide appropriate accommodation for the visiting student, and accept the responsibilities of host-parents for the length of their stay.
7. We understand that a visiting student may not share our religious beliefs and we agree to provide for these, including any special nutritional needs they may have (e.g. vegetarian, halal, kosher).
8. We agree to request prior permission from Bishop Drutt College and the visiting student's parents for any excursion that takes the visiting student away from school.
9. Given the privacy laws of other countries, we agree that any photograph of our child, digital or in print, may be taken and used as seemed fit by the host school.
10. We accept as final the decision of the Round Square representative at Bishop Drutt College and relevant staff at the Round Square host school in any matter relating to the exchange of our child and/or the visiting student.
11. We accept that in the event of the curtailment of the exchange due to the misbehaviour of our child, we (as parents) are liable to pay all costs incurred for their safe and expeditious return to Australia.

I confirm by my signature that I understand and abide by this agreement.

Participating student full name (please print) _____

Participating student signature _____

We agree to our child participating in the Round Square Exchange Program. I confirm by my signature that I understand and will abide by this agreement.

Parent 1 full name (please print) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent 2 full name (please print) _____

Signature _____ Date _____