

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING FOR INBOUNDS

Our District has a proud and successful history of hosting Rotary International Youth Exchange Students that dates back to 1980. We are committed to make your time with us “the best year of your life”. It is very important for us to establish with both students and parents a clear understanding of our expectations to avoid unnecessary challenges, miscommunication and/or unsafe conditions. After you arrive we will provide you with counselor support, orientations and training to help you successfully adapt and immerse into our culture. In addition to placing your signature on your original Rotary International application rules and separate ESSEX Rules, may we request your signature on this Letter of Understanding. Our expectations fall under two categories: Displaying behavior that embraces critical “Core Values” of our program and being compliant with District 7390 Operating Policies. (Listed Below)

Core Values:

- Treating all individuals with respect.
- Not placing yourself or others in unsafe conditions.
- Being tolerant and understanding of the differences of others and/or their cultures.
- Communicating in a truthful and socially responsible manner.
- Applying the Rotary 4-Way Test to all aspects of your exchange.

District 7390 Youth Exchange Operating Policies:

- Please bring \$500 with you to establish an “emergency fund”. This fund is to be replenished if any funds are used during the year. Any balance will be returned at the end of the year.
- During the first 8 weeks of your stay you will be required to minimize communications back home to short email or call per week. This will help you accelerate language learning and cultural immersion.
- You will be required to complete a monthly report that will be emailed to you. The information in this report is confidential and will only be read by your host counselor and District Youth Exchange officers.
- You will be required to follow various dress code requirements for school, Rotary and other social events. Your host family and counselor will assist you to understand what is appropriate for these various occasions.
- Our Student Protection Program has a Youth Protection Officer assigned for students to communicate with during any situation that may involve sexual harassment or abuse. On any Rotary event that involves an overnight stay, male and female students are not allowed in rooms together unless supervised by an adult chaperone.
- Please keep your host family and counselor aware of any newly acquired medical conditions or allergies (foods, pets, etc.) that may have developed since completing your original Application.
- We utilize a “Chain of Communications” for our students to follow when trying to resolve challenges or other issues that are stressful or uncertain. We would appreciate the cooperation and encouragement of natural parents to let students resolve their issues through their host family or host counselor. Any student personal safety issues including medical, sexual harassment or abuse will also include a direct notification to natural parents from District 7390.

Student & Parent Agreement

I have read, and fully understand the District 7390 “Letter of Understanding” and I will adhere to the Letter of Understanding and all policies of Rotary District 7390. I understand that if I do not follow these policies that I could lose privileges and possibly could be sent home.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Father Signature: _____ Mother Signature: _____

Date: _____