ACCOMMODATION AND WELFARE POLICY

Whitsunday Anglican School approves the following accommodation options for overseas students:

- The student will live with a parent or relative as permitted by DIAC. In this case the School does not provide a welfare letter (CAAW) via PRISMS. The student’s family provides proof of relationship to DIAC for the purposes of visa application.

- The student will live in school approved accommodation and the School will generate the welfare letter (CAAW) via PRISMS to accompany the student’s Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE).

- School approved accommodation options for full fee paying 571 visa subclass students under 18 years of age include:
  - School Boarding House
  - Private accommodation arrangements approved by the School which meet all requirements under relevant state and commonwealth legislation.

- For School vacation periods, the following accommodation options are available to full fee paying 571 visa subclass students under 18 years of age:

  [Delete any which do not apply]
  - Student returns home to parents
  - Student continues to live in / is placed in Homestay arranged and approved by the school
  - Student may spend vacation with friend’s family or relatives if all requirements are met in order to attain school approval.
  - Student may attend a supervised excursion, camp, etc., if all requirements are met in order to attain school approval.

- If the School has taken responsibility for approving arrangements for student care and welfare, should the School not approve requests for changes to agreed arrangements, and the student refuses to maintain the approved and agreed arrangements, the School will advise the student this will be reported to DIAC via and the student will need to contact DIAC to ensure visa implications are understood. (See DIAC office addresses at: [http://www.immi.gov.au/contacts/australia/index.htm] [Optional] This includes any requests by students under 18 years of age to attend “Schoolies Week” on completion of Year 12.)
Accommodation options for full fee paying 571 visa subclass students 18 years and older include:

- Homestay Program
- School Boarding House
- Private accommodation arrangements approved by school

For School vacation periods, the following accommodation options are available to full fee paying 571 visa subclass students 18 years or older:

- Student returns home to parents
- Student continues to live in / is placed in Homestay, details of which are recoded by the School
- Student may spend vacation with friend’s family or relatives, provided details are given
- Student may attend a supervised excursion, camp, etc., provided details are given
- Student may travel unaccompanied during vacation periods, provided details are given and signed permission is given by parents.

All students are required to notify the School of a change of address while enrolled in the course, and students who live in school approved accommodation must not change agreed arrangements without prior approval of the School.

*NB Homestay approved by Whitsunday Anglican School meets Queensland legislative requirements under Education (Overseas Students) Regulation 1998 s9 and the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian as well as under Standard 5 of the National Code. These include

- Continuous dates for approved welfare arrangements
- Documented procedures for checking suitability of accommodation, support and general welfare arrangements
- Guidelines for selecting family and ensuring the family can provide a stable environment for the duration of the student’s enrolment at the school
- Criteria about accommodation services to be provided, and contract for arrangements about providing accommodation services
- Orientation program from families new to provision of homestay services
- Bluecard for adults living in the homestay other than overseas students
- Compliant Homestay risk management strategy, reviewed annually, undertaken by operator of the homestay program.