

DISCUSSION REGARDING EXPECTATIONS OF SHINSHINIM HOST FAMILIES

Dear Host Families:

We would like to thank you for your readiness to open your hearts and homes to host a Shinshin in your home.

Hosting a Shinshin in your home is an empowering learning and eye-opening experience. But, along with this, hosting can come with challenges.

Understanding that each family has its own rules and norms and because the Shinshinim are coming with their own personal family habits and norms or those from their previous host family, we strongly recommend that within the first few days of your Shinshin's arrival, to hold a discussion regarding your expectations with your Shinshin. The purpose of the discussion is to have an open and honest discussion about your house norms and rules and what you expect from them, as well as what their expectations are during this hosting period.

The following are some ideas that you may use and/or expand upon in your discussion with the Shinshin:

1. Family Time

- When is "family together time" and when is "alone time?"
- Are you expecting the Shinshin to spend designated time with your child/ren? When? (i.e. every day, weekends, etc.)
- Do you want the Shinshin to participate in your family activities? (i.e. hikes, movies, etc.)

2. Covid19

- What are your family rules and practices?
- What is important for your family to observe?

3. Having Friends Over

- Will it be OK sometime for the Shinshin to invite friends to your house? If yes, when? (i.e. free time, dinner, etc.)
- Will it be OK sometime for the Shinshin to invite another Shinshin to sleep over your house?

4. Food Issues

Food Purchasing

- Does the Shinshin have any particular food preferences (i.e. vegetarian, vegan, allergies, gluten-free, etc.?)
- Are there any particular foods that the Shinshin likes to eat/have in the house?
- Would you like the Shinshin to accompany you to the market?

Cooking

- What meals do you expect the Shinshin to prepare by him/herself?
- Are you interested in having the Shinshin help with family meal preparation?
- Must the Shinshin clean and keep the kitchen orderly (i.e. washing dishes, putting dishes away, etc.) after he/she cooks?

Family Meals

- Does your family regularly eat meals together? Which ones? (Lunch, dinner, holidays, Shabbat, etc.)
- What time does your family regularly eat?

5. Cleaning

Housecleaning

- Is the Shinshin expected to clean his/her own room and bathroom?
- Is it important to you that the Shinshin's room is always clean and orderly or is that a personal issue that the Shinshin can choose as they want?

Laundry

- Does the Shinshin have to do his/her own laundry including linens?

Dishwashing

- Is dishwashing done by hand or need to be prepared for the dishwasher?
- Does the Shinshin have to wash his/her own dishes?
- Is the person who cooks responsible for clean up afterwards?

Besides this initial discussion, we encourage you to have on-going discussions/talks with your Shinshin during the hosting period. We believe that this kind of discussion will benefit both your family and the Shinshin. Knowing and sharing expectations will help the Shinshin adapt in the best possible way and for both your family and the Shinshin to make the best of this amazing experience for your guest from Israel.

With sincere gratitude and wishing you the most enjoyable and meaningful hosting experience.
Best regards,
The Shinshin Southern Region Staff