

Dear Host family,

I'm very keen for you to get to know me and for me to get to know you. Firstly, I want to start by telling you about my family. I have 2 other siblings and we are all very close. My brother Riley is 18 and he teaches me to be tough and strong. My sister Freya is 13 and she looks up to me, so I always try to be a good role model. My mum is my best friend. I can tell her everything and she always has good advice, especially how to navigate through high school. My dad and I like to joke around. We share the same sense of humour and laugh all the time.

My Pop (grandpa) on my mum's side live nearby and come to visit us a lot. They like to take me and my siblings out for dinner and take us shopping for our birthdays. My grandma and I like going to the theatre, ballet and shopping together. Every year for my birthday, we go into the city and get a nice lunch together. My nana on my dad's side lives a bit further away, but we also love to see musicals or movies together.

Another close relative I want to mention is my great aunt Kez. She was my mum's closest aunt when she was a child and now she's mine. She often has me, my siblings and my cousins over to her house for sleep overs. I have nice memories of drinking chocolate milkshakes and stayed up all night watching movies with her and my cousin Kayla. Kayla and I are very close and we look very similar so often get asked if we are twins.

At Ivanhoe Grammar (my school) I participate in the aerobics team, which is like a mixture of dance and gymnastics. We compete in local competitions and we've had the opportunity to travel to another state to compete at the Nationals competition every year. I also play soccer in a school team. My favourite subject at school is humanities and global education. I have an interest in socio-politics and broader world issues, so I am interested in choosing subjects such as politics and history at school next year when I am in VCE (the final 2 years of school).

I have a big group of friends at school, who are really important to me. We have a lot of fun together and love to go shopping and buy new clothes. I also have many friends I made along the years from my involvement in my main passion, which is dance. I have been taking dance classes since I was 3, and have tried many different styles. The concerts are the best part of dance classes. I love to learn choreography and perform on stage. Outside of school and dance, I enjoy cooking and baking. My favourite thing to make is pasta, which my sister loves too, so I always make extra for her.

I also have 2 part time jobs. One is in an ice cream shop and the other is soccer coaching for young children. I love working with children and also love sampling new ice cream at the end of each shift in the ice-cream shop.

I'm not sure exactly what I'll do after high school, however my goals are to travel the world, gain experience and be fulfilled in the job I choose. Studying at university overseas also interests me.

Lastly, I want to tell you about why I want to be a part of this exchange program. Gaining real world experiences, meeting new people and immersing myself in different cultures feels exciting to me. It also feels daunting, but I know the skills and confidence I will gain can only help me in the future, plus I'll be creating lifelong memories.

Overall, I'm easy going, social, adventurous, empathetic and sometimes shy, but sometimes confident and I always love to try new things and not let fear get in the way of experiences.

I hope this gives you a sense of who I am. I'm so excited to meet you/you all and embark on this adventure of exchange!