



# **EC Classic London 2011**

**Homestay information**





# EC Classic London 2011

## Area of host families

Catford is situated 15 minutes from central London by train. Catford Bridge Railway Station is only a short walk from the school. Like the rest of the city, Catford is a diverse area and with our host families students can expect a typical London experience. Our hosts will typically be located in Catford and surrounding areas such as Beckenham Hill and Downham, all of which are within 25 minutes of the school by car.

## Host families

All host families for the Classic London Programme are provided by our host family provider which we also use for our adult students throughout the year. Together we provide quality English home stays to overseas students attending the Classic London programme. All accommodation is inspected to English UK and British Council Guidelines.

Host family accommodation is regularly checked by our provider to ensure that high standards of cleanliness, friendliness and attention to student welfare are being maintained. For example, hosts are expected to provide clean bedclothes and towels, provide food on relevant days and accompany the student to and from the school. Students will mostly share a twin room and unless they request to stay with a friend, they will share the room with another student of the same gender but of a different nationality. An area where the student can study and complete homework will also be provided. The student will also have access to laundry facilities.

As the host family experience is a crucial part of the Classic London programme, students should feel welcome and comfortable with our hosts. Our host families provide a warm and comfortable home environment for students during their stay in London. In fact, many of our hosts are returning to work with us again after successfully accommodating students in our previous Classic London programme.

Our main aim is to ensure that every student is placed in a welcoming family environment which we strongly believe will lead to a faster improvement in language ability and will contribute to a happy stay in the UK. By living with a host family, students will receive a lot of exposure to the English language, culture and the rhythm of life in the world's most cosmopolitan and diverse city. By immersing themselves in the lifestyle of a typical London family, students will experience personal growth and will notice improvements in their language skills. The families are from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds but all speak native English. English is also the main language spoken in the house and is the only language spoken to the students.

With advanced notice EC can accommodate any special requests that students may consider necessary for their well being eg. non smoking family, no pets, allergies, special dietary requirements etc. However students should bear in mind that this may not always be possible especially in the peak weeks of summer.



## Host family Profile Examples

The examples below are a sample of the host families provided for the EC Classic London Junior Programme. Our hosts reflect the diversity of London as a whole and should provide an interesting and stimulating introduction to life in London.

### ***Stella Rodriguez***

Location: Catford  
Pets: None  
Children: None

Mrs and Mr Rodriguez are an experienced and caring couple who live in a nice flat in Catford, South East London. Stella is a Family Supporter and Gabriel is an Admin Officer. They both enjoy gardening, travelling, socialising and watching television for recreation. Students will enjoy a nice big room which is bright and airy. It also offers plenty of storage space and good study facilities. The house itself is located in a quiet, residential area and has good transport links. Catford Bridge station is only a 5 minute walk away and has access to British Rail. The family lives 10 min walking distance from the school so they will walk with the students to school every day.

### ***Anita McKenzie***

Location: Catford  
Children: None  
Pets: None

Mrs McKenzie lives in a lovely 3 bedroom house in Catford. She is an Interfaith Minister and counsellor, and enjoys keep fit, going to exhibitions and watching films. The house is in a great location and is a 10 minute walk to Hither Green overground railway station and a 30 minute journey from there to Oxford Circus. The student will enjoy a nice twin room with a desk, wardrobe, T.V and hi-fi. Mrs McKenzie takes two students in a twin bedroom. Her house is of a high standard and very clean and tastefully decorated.

### ***Roseline Dzumbuno***

Location: Thamesmead  
Pets: None  
Children: None

Ms Dzumbuno lives on her own in a nice house in South East London. Rosaline is a Teacher. Her hobbies and interests are sport, reading (she is a member of a book club), watching TV, football and travelling. The student will enjoy clean, comfortable accommodation with access to the internet and the hospitality of a kind and generous host. Smoking is strictly forbidden in the house. Ms Dzumbuno lives 25 minutes by car from the school. The students will be dropped off and picked up by car every day



### ***Joy Miles***

Location: Catford  
Pets: No  
Childrens: One (Female, 20s).

Mrs Miles lives in a large house in a very nice part of South London. Joy is a lecturer with a quiet, warm personality which makes students instantly feel at home. She enjoys reading, listening to music, dining out with friends and to going to the theatre. Her home is a large 4 bedroom semi detached house with shared bathroom, another shower room, dining room and lovely kitchen and garden. The student will enjoy good quality accommodation. Joy hosts up to 4 students in two twin bedrooms. She lives 15 minutes by car from the school. The students will be dropped off and picked up by car every day.

### ***Ayeshia Ramadan***

Location: Catford  
Pets: None  
Children: None

Ms Ramadan lives in a three bedroom terraced house in Catford, south east London. Ayeshia is a housewife and likes to dedicate her free time to hosting students. Students will appreciate the experience of their host and her friendly and welcoming nature. Ayeshia will accommodate students in either a double or a twin room, both nicely decorated and with sufficient storage and study facilities. Ayeshia's home is located a three minute walk to Crofton Park Rail station and a 10 minute walk from Catford Bridge Rail station. There are also good bus links around the house. The family lives 15 min. walking distance from the school. Ms Ramadan will walk with the student to the school every day.

### ***Shola Sanyaolu***

Location: Catford  
Pets: None  
Children: Two young boys

Mr and Mrs Sanyaolu live with their children in a nice bedroom house, in a lovely part of South East London. Shola is a Programmes & Events Administrator and her husband Charles is a Senior Environmental Officer. The family enjoys playing football, video games, card games, reading and socialising with the students. The student will enjoy good quality spacious accommodation with access to the internet. The family can host up to 4 students in two bedrooms, a twin room and a bunk twin room as below. The house is newly decorated and re furnished to a good standard. The family lives 15 minutes by car from the school. The students will be dropped off and picked up by car every day.



### ***Titilayo Olerawaju***

Location: Beckenham Hill  
Pets: None  
Children: One (male, 20s)

Ms Olerawaju lives with her grown up son in a nice house in Beckenham, South East London. Titilayo is a Chemical Officer by profession but has retired now. In her leisure time she likes to go to church and the cinema as well as watching movies at home. Students will appreciate her warm and welcoming nature. She will accommodate students in either a good size single or a double room, both with nice decor and good storage as well as study facilities. The home itself is located in close proximity to South-eastern Railway's Beckenham Hill station, allowing quick access to Central London. Moreover, there are also good bus links in the area which students can use to commute to the centre. Titilayo lives 15 minutes by car from the school. The students will be dropped off and picked up by car every day.

### ***Astra Williams***

Location: Catford  
Pets: None  
Children: None (older children not living at home)

Ms Williams lives in a nice house in South East London. Her home has three bedrooms, a living room, and dining room, all very clean and maintained to a good standard. Astra is a Housing Manager. She enjoys reading, keep fit, going out and visiting places of interest. The student will enjoy clean and comfortable accommodation of a good standard. Astra takes up to 3 students in one twin/bunk room and another single room.

### ***Joyce Fadipe***

Location: Downham  
Pets: None  
Children: One son

Mrs. and Mr. Fadipe live with their son in a cosy flat in Downham, south-East London. Joyce works for the community as a care worker looking after vulnerable adults, and Mr. Fadipe works by night in a factory. The family attends church every Sunday and Joyce enjoys cooking. The student will enjoy having a room with a friendly family. The family lives 20 minutes by car from the school. The students will be dropped off and picked up by car every day.

## Testimonials from some of our host families



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We gain wonderful insights into so many different cultures. My children, especially, learn a great deal from them. We have made so many wonderful friends and keep in touch regularly, long after they have gone.



“

Hotels are lonely, whereas homestay has a warm feeling. They get to know the locals, there is a library, swimming pool and some shops close to my house. Students will also gain some additional knowledge of the UK.



“

I enjoy learning about different cultures, meeting new people and showing them how I live. Hosting students from EC is brilliant as EC are so organised and caring about their students.



“

When staying with a family it is nice for a student to come home and have a cooked dinner ready. It's good to have some company and to have someone to talk to in the evenings. They can then learn how the British lifestyle is.

Photos of some of our host family homes

