HOST FAMILIES

« Céad Míle Fáilte », a hundred thousand welcomes !

The warm welcome of the Irish people has a reputation recognized throughout the world. If you have chosen a program with homestay accommodation, you will have a great stay! *Irish in France* only works with reputable language schools. The host families are carefully selected by my partners on site.

- The families all have the equivalent of a clean criminal record (*Garda vetting certificate*) and they are close to the school.
- The families selected are most often from the middle class and are selected according to strict criteria: welcome, moral value, comfort and are regularly checked by the school.
- Foster families can be made up of a father, a mother, one or more children, but this is not an absolute rule. There can be single-parent families, blended families, families with an immigrant background, young couples with or without children, retired couples, a single lady, etc. Ireland is a modern and diverse society, with a population that reflects this diversity.
- Foster families therefore do not systematically include children. I must draw your attention to the fact that the presence of children in the host family's home is not a guarantee of success, since the differences in mentalities are generally very significant between young people from different cultures and countries.
- The participant may be welcomed by a family from a different social background, ethnic or religious background than his or her own. The assignment to the host families is done by my partners on site.
- Specific requests concerning the family are considered during registration and will try, as far as possible, to be met, if they are likely to correspond to the normal criteria for family selection.
- They are not asked to change their lifestyle habits in any way. Families are not required to change their lifestyle and to organize outings especially for their young guest. It is up to the participant to adapt to the daily life of the family that receives him, and not the other way around, to discover their culture, their habits and their way of life.
- It is also important to note that the lifestyle can be very different from country to country: dinner at 6pm in Ireland and 8pm in France. Meals are also not regularly eaten at the table, with the family. It is relatively common for each member of the family to eat at a different time and not necessarily as a family.
- Host families are recruited, controlled, and paid by language schools.
- Host family contact information is only available 1 or 2 weeks before the start of the program.
- Any possible issues between the host family and the student are handled by the school.