



Information for the parents and guardians of students aged 16 and 17

We take our duty of care to our younger students very seriously.

This information is to help agents, parents, guardians and the students themselves.

OISE Bristol accepts young people from 16 years old on closed group courses and from 17 years old on main school courses, although the majority of our students are adults (i.e. over 18 years old). OISE Bristol administrative, academic and social activity staff have been cleared to work with children and young people by the UK government agency with this responsibility.

We have a designated person, Gwen Waller, who is trained to support the well-being of and to safeguard our younger students.

Students in this age group may study in classes with adults.

Students aged 16 and 17 are supervised while in the school or on school organised events.

They need to travel independently between their accommodation and the school. While not in school, travelling to school or on a school organised event, they are in the care of our homestay host if applicable.

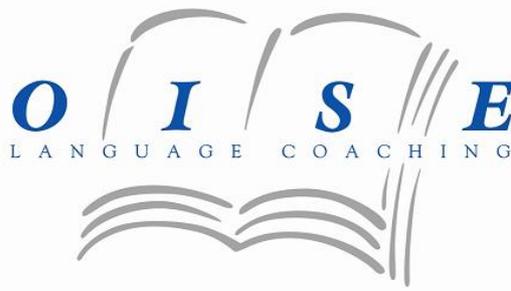
We monitor the attendance of students very carefully. Should a student in this age group not attend the first hour of the day we will, within 30 minutes, attempt to call the student or homestay and then, if that proves difficult, other contact numbers given.

OISE Bristol can only place this age group in homestay accommodation. Our homestays have been selected according to their suitability to host 16 and 17 year olds. All adult members of the home have been cleared to work with children and young people by the UK government agency with this responsibility.

All 16 and 17 year olds and their parents or guardians should have a copy of OISE Bristol's 'Unaccompanied Under 18 Code of Conduct' which specifies curfew times (if the student is in homestay accommodation), activities they must not engage in and things they need to be aware of in the UK that might be different in their own culture. This should be completed and signed by a parent or guardian and the young person themselves before we can confirm the booking.

We also insist that the person making the booking communicate to us the full contact details of the student's parents or guardians including mobile numbers we can contact in an emergency.

It is a requirement that we are informed at the time of booking of any specific educational needs, special emotional needs or has a medical condition* we need to be aware of.



We encourage students to take part in our social programme though it is not compulsory. Where these events are not suitable for 16 or 17 year olds we will make that clear when advertising them. However other events will be made available that are suitable. When these take place in the evening it is the student's responsibility to make appropriate arrangements to get home, ideally with a friend. The office or accompanying teacher will be happy to advise on bus routes or taxis.

Please be aware that in the UK students aged 16 and 17 cannot buy or consume alcohol, buy or smoke tobacco or enter pubs or clubs where alcohol is served unaccompanied by an adult. This is strictly enforced.

All students aged 16 and 17 must arrive in the UK with a signed 'Consent to Travel' form (available on booking the course) to avoid problems with the UKBA on entry. We strongly advise students aged 16 and 17 book an airport transfer or have a named adult meet them at arrivals.

* We only need to be aware of conditions that may require emergency medical treatment in the UK., or that may deteriorate if medication is not taken regularly or that may affect the student's learning or socialising abilities.

Please note that all information received is treated in confidence and stored under the guidelines of the UK Data Protection Act.

Updated and reviewed January 2017.
To be reviewed January 2018.