

Sanyo Onoda Visit 2026

Dear Prospective Host Families,

Thank you for your interest in volunteering to become a host family for a Japanese student. We are so excited to have our Japanese guests back again this year, and thank you for helping us to make it happen. We will have an information night closer to the date of the exchange, but the Frequently Asked Questions below should cover the key points. Feel free to email Riley Sensei at jrile120@eq.edu.au if you have any other questions you would like to ask before applying.

1) What do I have to provide for my student?

You will need to provide meals, including school lunches for most days of the visit. There are a couple of days where lunch will be provided. The student will need to have their own bed (not a mattress on the floor), but they can share a room with a family member of the same gender. Other than that, you would treat the student as a member of your own family.

2) What qualifications will I need to apply?

All adult members of your family need to hold a current Blue Card or apply for one as soon as possible. We can assist with your application for a volunteer's Blue Cards if you do not already have one.

3) Do I need to be able to speak Japanese to my student?

No. You are not expected to communicate in Japanese. The students are here to learn English. However, if your student is studying Japanese at Redcliffe SHS, this will be a great opportunity for them to practice their language skills.

4) Will I receive payment for being a host family?

The Sanyo Onoda sister city visit is a reciprocal program celebrating the friendship between the two cities, so host families will be volunteering. However, the students bring a gift of \$250 for their host family which you can put towards the cost of having them in your home.

5) What if my student gets sick or becomes homesick?

You will have 24-hour support from Riley Sensei and the Japanese chaperones throughout the duration of the tour, so if your student becomes sick, experiences homesickness or you have a family emergency there is always someone on call who can provide support.

6) How will my student get to school?

The student will go to school and return home with your student. If your student walks to school or catches the bus, the Japanese student goes with them.

7) What should we do with the student on the weekends?

You do not need to go to a lot of expense to take them somewhere fancy. Students are here to learn about everyday life in Australia. Everyday activities will be new and exciting for your student. Have a BBQ, take the dog for a walk in the park or play a game of backyard cricket. They will love it! There are a few activities that homestay students are not allowed to do for safety reasons such as swimming. These will be explained on the host family information night.

If you have read all the above and wish to apply to become a host family, please complete this form and return it to Riley Sensei in E08 staffroom. We sincerely look forward to sharing the wonderful experience of homestay with you.

HOST FAMILY APPLICATION

For Sanyo-Onoda Japanese student visit –30th of July to 8th of August 2026

Arriving: Thursday, 30th of July at RSHS, homestay student will go home with your child at 3pm

Departing: Saturday 8th of August, families to attend at the school for a sayonara party before students travel to Brisbane Airport by charter bus (Time is yet to be confirmed).

Parent/Caregiver(s): _____

Host student’s name: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Please list all other persons residing in the home where the Sanyo-Onoda student will board and their relationship to you

Name	Age	Relationship

Please list the details of any members of your family who hold a blue card (working with children check).

Name _____ Date of birth _____ Card No. _____ Expiry Date _____

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Name _____ Date of birth _____ Card No. _____ Expiry Date _____

List any pets and if they are inside or outside:

Preferred gender of student (please circle) male female

How many students would you be willing to host? 1 2

Would they have their own room? Yes No

If no, who would they share with? _____

Note: Sanyo Onoda students must have a bed, not sleep on the floor or lounge etc.

How many people would share the same bathroom? _____

Does anyone in the household smoke? Yes No

How would the student travel to and from school?: _____

What do you like to do as a family in your spare time? _____

List any other relevant details:
