

March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Re: Opportunity for Townley School Families: Hosting International Exchange Students

We are pleased to announce an opportunity for all families within the Townley School community to volunteer as hosts for international students from our partner schools, London Academy (Morocco) and Modern School (India).

Following the successful exchange programs to Morocco and India in 2024, in which Townley students participated, we are now extending an invitation to our community to reciprocate the hospitality extended to our students and to engage in further cultural exchange.

## About the Schools:

## Modern School India

Townley has an established partnership with Modern School India (New Delhi) and both schools have taken part in reciprocal exchange for many years. The Modern School is a co-educational private school situated in New Dehli, India. It is consistently ranked well among Indian schools. Visiting students will be girls aged between 14 and 17 years old.

Students from Modern School, India, will be visiting from June 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> inclusive.

## London Academy Morocco

Townley's first visit to this school was in May 2024. This new partnership is the first partnership exchange in Africa and we are excited to continue this collaborative partnership. London Academy is an international school situated in two sites: Casablanca and Rabat. Students study the British Curriculum at this school. Visiting students will be boys and girls.

Students from London Academy, Morocco, will be visiting from July 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Hosting Requirements:**

We are seeking families who are willing to host a student from either or both partner schools. Hosting entails providing accommodation and meals for the student during their stay. This offers a valuable opportunity to share your family's culture and daily life, and for your child to develop lasting friendships. For students who participated in the previous exchange trips, it may also provide an opportunity to reconnect with students from our partner schools.



Following their stay with host families, the international groups will travel to Central London for sightseeing. There is a possibility that your child may be invited to participate in some of these outings. Details will be confirmed once the itinerary are finalised by the international schools.

Host families will be required to provide accommodation and meals for the duration of the student's stay.

As part of the host family program, the school is required to facilitate an enhanced DBS check, including a children's barred list check, for all host families and household members aged 16 and over.

Please be advised that the school's insurance provider does not provide coverage for third-party liability for incidents occurring within your home.

This is a volunteer opportunity to contribute to international understanding and provide a welcoming experience for our partner school students. If you are interested in participating, please apply.

#### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

Please read the enclosed FAQ page for further details. Families are also welcome to ask questions on the application form.

#### How to Apply:

Please fill this form to register your interest by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025: <u>Townley Host Families</u> - <u>Expression of Interest Form</u>

Yours sincerely,

Ms D Venuso, Trip Leader for the London Academy (Morocco) Exchange Program and Miss C Gouldbourne, Trip Leader for the Modern School (India) Exchange Program

# Townley School International Exchange Program: Host Family FAQ

## **General Information:**

- Q: Who are the visiting students?
  - A: We will be hosting students from our partner schools: Modern School in India and London Academy in Morocco (Casablanca and Rabat).
- Q: When will the students be visiting?
  - A: Students from Modern School, India, will visit from June 16<sup>th</sup> to June 21<sup>st</sup>. Students from London Academy, Morocco, will visit from July 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Q: Is this a paid position?
  - A: No, this is a volunteer opportunity for Townley School families.
- Q: Who is eligible to host?
  - A: All families within the Townley School community are invited to apply.

## Hosting Responsibilities:

- Q: What are the responsibilities of a host family?
  - A: Host families are responsible for providing accommodation, meals, and a welcoming environment for the visiting student during their stay. This includes integrating the student into your family's daily life and sharing your culture.
- Q: Do I need to provide transportation?
  - A: Transportation to and from school during the exchange period is at the discretion of the host family. However, we encourage host families to include students in local activities and outings where possible.
- Q: What if I have concerns about language barriers?
  - A: Many of the visiting students have a good understanding of English. We will also provide support and resources to facilitate communication.
- Q: What kind of activities should we plan?
  - A: Simple activities that reflect your family's daily life are ideal. Sharing meals, participating in hobbies, and exploring local attractions are all great ways to engage with the students.
- Q: What if there is a problem during the stay?
  - A: The school will provide contact information for designated staff members who will be available to assist host families with any questions or concerns.

## Safety and Security:

- Q: What safety measures are in place?
  - A: All host families and household members aged 16 and over are required to undergo an enhanced DBS check, including a children's barred list check.
- Q: Does the school provide insurance coverage?
  - A: Please be aware that the school's insurance provider does not provide coverage for third-party liability for incidents occurring within your home or modes of transport.
- Q: What if the visiting child has medical needs?
  - A: We will gather detailed information about any medical needs from the visiting students and their families. Host families will be informed of any relevant information.

- Q: What if my child would like to join the Moroccan students when they go to central London?
  - A: There is a possibility that your child may be invited to participate in some of these outings. Details will be confirmed once the itinerary is finalized by London Academy.

## **Application Process:**

- Q: How do I apply to be a host family?
  - A: Please complete the application form provided by the school.
- Q: What is the deadline for applications?
  - A: The deadlines for applications will be clearly stated on the application forms and related communications.
- Q: What happens after I submit my application?
  - A: Your application will be reviewed, and you may be contacted for further information. You will be informed of the outcome of your application as soon as possible.
- Q: How are students matched with host families?
  - A: We will consider factors such as student interests, family dynamics, and availability to ensure a successful match.