

GOING TO SCHOOL IN THE UK

- **SETTLING IN** - It will take a while to adjust to a new school, new classmates, a new curriculum and studying in a second language, but don't worry – each day things will become a little bit more familiar and easier. Don't expect everything to be perfect on the first day – settling in will take weeks.
- **ATTENDANCE/DRESS CODE** - Daily attendance at school is compulsory, and all school rules (e.g. uniform/dress code) must be followed.
- **PUNCTUALITY** - You have to arrive in time for morning registration every day, and you should not be late for any classes.
- **ABSENCE (1)** - If you are going to be absent for any reason (e.g. illness) one of your host parents must call the school's absence line early in the morning and explain why you are not attending.
- **ABSENCE (2)** - If you need to miss a day at school for any reason (return home, family visit, etc.) you must request permission in advance from the school. You must not book anything until permission have been given.
- **SUBJECT CHOICES** - No school subjects are guaranteed, for a variety of reasons. Which subjects are available to you will be explained in the first few days at school, and you will have the opportunity to change subjects if you feel you have made the wrong choice.
- **PERSONAL TUTORS** - In most schools one of the teachers will be your personal tutor. His/her role is to help you cope with school life and they should be your first point of contact if you have any concerns about your classes.
- **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES** - You should take an active role in school life by participating fully in lessons and joining clubs which interest you. You need to mix with as many people as possible in order to find like-minded people to make friends with.
- **STUDY PERIODS** - Once students enter Year 12 in the UK they are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning, so study periods make up a significant part of the weekly timetable. These are not 'free' periods, and should be used to study, complete assignments or do any other school-related work.
- **EXAMS** - You must take any external exams that the school enters you for.
- **REPORTS** - At the end of your stay you will get a report detailing your dates of attendance, punctuality, subjects, academic ability and progress. If your documents are not ready before your departure, you should leave a stamped envelope with your home address on, so the school can post the documents to you.
- **DEPARTURE** - Please be aware that for short term programmes such as term and semester, Educatius has set departure dates that are communicated in advance with your agency. These should be respected as any additional days in the HF will result in additional costs. For full year students, your departure date from the programme is dictated by your school/college and when their final day of teaching or examinations is planned.