

# FSA YOUTH EXCHANGE

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### 2016 /17 Host Family Information Brochure

Does the idea of having **friends in faraway countries** appeal to you?

Is your family a **typical, ordinary South African family**?

Lively, complex, interesting, on the go?

Are you **proud** of our beautiful country?

Are you interested in **sharing your family life** with a young guest  
from a strange country for a few weeks?

Think how much **fun** you can have showing a new friend **how we live and love**  
in this place we call home...

What a great **opportunity** for a family to have someone  
from a different culture share and **live in your home**?

Having your children experience this...

Think of lasting **friendships** that can form.

In effect we are building **bridges between strangers**  
and between countries that can lead to regular contact  
and even subsequent counter visits!

**When do these visits take place?** Five groups of German students visit friendly, hospitable South African families every year getting to know **our country, our people, the different cultures, languages and way of living** by being **part of an ordinary family**.

Four weeks: **July – August** (3 groups i.e. July or August or mid Jul to mid Aug).

Six weeks: **July – August**. A few students get permission from their German school to stay for 6 weeks.

Three month school programme: **July – end September** (3<sup>rd</sup> term)

Four weeks: **mid December – mid January**

**What about school attendance?** Most of the visits take place **during school terms**, except December and one of the July groups. The students want to **attend the local school with your child** to experience the difference in education systems. During the 4 week programmes the guest only **observes** what happens at school and is not an active participant. During the 3 month programme the guest will **actively take part in the tuition**, doing homework, writing tests etc. All students are required to adhere to school rules. Three month students buy school uniform (or borrow if possible). FSA Germany pays school fees for 3 month participants if schools require this.

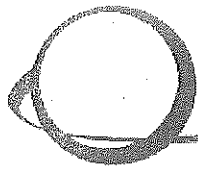


**Who are our young visitors?** Participants are between 14 and 19 years old. They come from **all over Germany** and the programme is not limited to only one school or city. Participants are **screened** and most of them attend a **preparation workshop** before the exchange visit.

**Who can host?** All interested families are invited to apply to host a student for three months or four weeks regardless of whether they come from a rural or urban environment. Families are screened for suitability.

**What is expected of host families? (some requirements)**

- The ideal host family must be **hospitable, friendly, warm and open minded** towards guests who come from a different culture.  
Is your family **open-minded and tolerant**? Easy-going?  
Even if someone looks **strange or different** to what we are used to, maybe has many ear or nose piercings, boys with longer hair, perhaps even dreadlocks? Different or no religion? Liberal political views?  
**Does different necessarily mean “wrong”?**
- Are there **teenagers of schoolgoing age** in your family? Obviously also younger and older siblings? Applicants are usually matched with host families whose own children’s ages, gender and interests are similar.
- Host families act as informal **“ambassadors” for South Africa**. We have so much to be proud of in our country. Can you identify with this?
- Just think how you can introduce them a typical **“braai”**, pap and gravy, biltong, koeksisters and everything you enjoy eating. The guest has **all his meals with the family**. It is not necessary to cater for different diets or preferences.
- Do you have a **spare bed** for a guest? **An own room is not a condition**. The guest is willing to share a room with a child of the same gender.
- **Being able to speak German is not essential**. All communication will be in English. It is important to inform us if your home language is German as this impacts on who is placed with your family.



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- Do you live in a **politically stable area**? The host family is **not responsible for any losses or injuries** suffered by the guest during private excursions. We are all aware of the situation in South Africa regarding crime. Participants are informed of the situation in South Africa and that they should adhere to your recommendations regarding safety.
- Are you willing to make a young guest **part of your everyday family life**? It is **not expected** of host families to organise **extensive sightseeing** programmes for guests. Can you show her some of the **places of interest in your area**? It would be a pity if a guest had to fly 10 000 km to only get to know the way to school and back.

**What expenses does it entail?** Mainly having a young guest live in your house, meals, transport to and from the airport and a few outings if possible. Each participant has a return air ticket, own pocket money and comprehensive Medical, Accident and Third party Insurance. FSA Germany pays school fees for long program participants and pupils buy their own school uniform. Due to the reciprocal nature of the programme, **families are not remunerated** for hosting an exchange student.

**Where will you meet your guest? Where will you fetch him / her?** Participants land in **Johannesburg**. If you cannot meet your guest at OR Tambo International Airport, please **indicate** the convenient **domestic airport** on the application form she must fly to, **closest to your home** where you can fetch her. Some return flights are very early in the morning – especially from Cape Town, meaning families have to bring them back to the airport in the early morning hours.

**You will have continuous support from the FSA during the visit.** An FSA **contact person**, Suzanne Baker is available for the duration of the stay should you need to get in touch with us or need any support. After we receive your application form, regular **information** regarding the visit will be sent to you from the FSA. This will help to make the visit as pleasant as possible for you as well as for your guest.

The same as our German host families we know you will have as much fun **preparing for the visit** as during the actual visit.

Our ex-host families and previous participants are our **best references**. If you would like to talk to any of them, call us for contact particulars.



**Where can host families obtain application forms?**

Available on our website <http://www.fsa-youthexchange.com> We gladly send application forms and brochures to families who request this via email as well. You can also apply online and send your application electronically – see on the website.

Please return the **thoroughly completed** application form as soon as possible to be processed. You can also apply by completing the online (paperless) application form on our website below. The electronic form is easy and effortless to complete and submit! To save trees we recommend the online application.

**All enquiries :** Our incoming programme from Germany to South Africa

**FSA Youth Exchange (Gauteng Office)**

**Suzanne Baker**

**P.O. Box 10618, Fonteinriet, 1464**

**Tel: 0 1 1 / 9 1 8 - 3 2 8 1**

**Fax: 086 551 4374**

**Email: [suzanne@fsa-youthexchange.co.za](mailto:suzanne@fsa-youthexchange.co.za)**

**Website: <http://www.fsa-youthexchange.com>**

**Where can prospective South African exchange pupils to Germany obtain application forms?** From your school or from the following website. You can download the form as well as complete it electronically (recommended):

<http://www.fsa-youthexchange.com>

**FSA Youth Exchange (Limpopo Office)**

**South-North Programme for SA pupils**

**Alta Botes**

**P.O. Box 511, Naboomspruit, 0560**

**Tel : 0 1 4 / 7 4 3 1 0 8 1**

**Fax: 086 551 4374**

**Email: [admin@fsa-youthexchange.co.za](mailto:admin@fsa-youthexchange.co.za)**

We invite you to become part of an exceptional group of people who has added immense value to their experiences by participating in this exchange programme.

The FSA Youth Exchange continues to expand and thousands of South African and German families have broadened their horizons by their involvement.

**FSA celebrates 20 years' exchange visits in 2016!**

# 2016 /2017 FSA Application Form

## for South African Host families

Please complete all questions and send it back as soon as possible by fax or email. Should you prefer the easier paperless option, you can also complete the online application on our website.

Family Surname: .....  
*Mention children's surname too if children have a different surname*

First names (mother and father) .....

Home language of family : Afrikaans / English / German / Zulu / Sotho / other mention .....

Please mark by circling **ALL** the date groups that suit your family! It makes the allocations easier.

- A. **Four or six week program** July - August 2016 or 2017  
(3 different groups depending on school holiday in the German province):  
(English as well as Afrikaans schools)  
Groups visit 4 or 6 weeks during July or Aug.      Yes      No
- B. **Four week cultural exchange:** 16 December 2016 – 12 January 2017 or Dec 2017      Yes      No  
(No school attendance Dec) Note only a few students participate in the December program  
approximately 20 compared to 150 in July / Aug program)
- C. **Three-month-school programme:**  
(English as well as Afrikaans schools): 08 July – 1 October 2016 (tentative dates) Yes      No

Our own child participated / will participate (mark)    JULY 2016 /    OCT 2016 /    DEC 2016 / 2015

Postal address: .....      Postal code: .....

Street address: .....      Postal code: .....

Province in SA (Gauteng etc) .....

Tel. (h.): ..... / .....      Tel. (w.): ..... / .....      ..... mention mom's or dad's

Cell (mother): .....      Cell (father): .....

Email (person in family who reads email most often) : .....

**Alternative email** .....  
*Correct mobile phone numbers and email addresses important for future communication with your family*

Will you fetch your guest at the Johannesburg International Airport? Circle Yes / No

If NO, to which domestic airport must he / she fly on arrival in SA? .....

From which airport will he / she fly back to Johannesburg before departure from SA? .....

How far away do you live from a major airport (Jhb, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban etc)? ..... km

Occupation Host father .....

Occupation Host mother .....  
*(If occupation is businessman / woman or own business, please mention nature of business for greater clarity)*

Please include all children presently living at home: Name 4 – 5 (or more hobbies / interests per child.)  
Mention kind of sport (not just sport), watching Television does not make it easy to match someone, tell us if child plays a musical instrument, if child rode a horse or did gymnastics 5 years ago, do not give it as a present hobby ☺  
Hobbies / interests reflects a picture of the child.  
*Please circle male / female of each child (not always easy to deduct gender from the names).*

Name child 1 (male / female) ..... Age (June 2017): .....  
(the child in the family who was / will be the exchange student to Germany)  
Four or more hobbies / interests

.....  
Name child 2 (male / female) ..... Age (June 2017): .....

Four or more hobbies / interests:

.....  
Name child 3 (male / female) ..... Age (June 2017): .....

Four or more hobbies / interests:

.....  
Name child 4 (male / female) ..... Age (June 2017): .....

Four or more hobbies / interests:

.....  
Please mention other extended family members living with the family e.g. grandparents

.....  
Do you have any pets? Kind of pet e.g. dog, snakes?

.....  
**Your preferences** regarding a possible guest: (A definite placement cannot be guaranteed as the applicants are also screened and families and applicants have to be matched).

Circle preferred gender: Male / Female      Circle preferred age: 14 - 16 / 17 - 19 / 14 - 19

If there is no suitable match with your family in 2017, will your family still be available to host in 2018? Yes / No

Do you have any other preferences or wishes? .....

Would it be a problem if the guest is a smoker? .....

Is anyone in your family a smoker? If yes, who? .....

Any other important information regarding your family (e.g. vegetarian members, if someone in the family speaks German, divorced family, children live with father / mother, family member in wheelchair, diabetic, epileptic, important to mention if you do home-schooling etc )

.....  
.....

Your German student should have at least one or more of the following hobbies/ interests - name 4:

.....

Will you visit any neighbouring countries, for which he / she may require a visa?

Circle Yes / No

If yes, please name the countries: .....

Particulars of your child / children's present school

Name of the school .....

Language medium (circle): Afrikaans / English / Dual / Double medium:

Postal address : .....

..... Postal code :.....

School Tel. .... / ..... Fax: ..... / .....

Contact teacher : .....

Principal: .....

School e-mail: .....

IMPORTANT: Will your German guest live in a school hostel with your child? Circle Yes / No

School fees per term (for 3 month participants only).....

Hostel fees per month (if applicable).....

**Please complete this information:** We need contact details of friends / family / neighbours as a reference and should we have difficulty in contacting you in emergencies: Please inform your friends FSA will contact them as a family reference.

Name and Surname of friends.....

Postal address (friends): ..... City: .....

Postal code: ..... Email of friends: .....

Only provide their email address if they agree to receive email from FSA in this regard ©

Tel (friends): ..... Cell number (friends): .....

CAN YOU RECOMMEND FRIENDS WHO WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED RECEIVING OUR BROCHURES?  
Name and contact number, email of another possible host family -  
Please ask them first if they are interested before giving us their contact information to make sure they agree  
.....

.....  
Signature / ID of host father in place of signature

.....  
Signature / ID of host mother in place of signature

.....  
Date

**Please fax or email your completed form to:**  
Fax 086 551 4374

email : [admin@fsa-youthexchange.co.za](mailto:admin@fsa-youthexchange.co.za)