A thumbs up from Zhenming

“My hosts are really nice, they gave me opportunities to visit so many different beautiful places such as Widemouth bay and Boscastle bay, as well walk in very nice wood. They went to the pub during Christmas and visit their neighbors with me, many thanks for their efforts to give me opportunities to understand Britain daily life and Christmas holiday. I really appreciate this opportunity and I learned a lot about the culture and the daily life of British people.”

Zhenming Wu from China studying Earth Observation at Reading

Achieving our Aims...Here's testimony to our success...

“My HOST visit has made me understand and appreciate the beauty of the countryside. It has boosted my social interaction and helped me to appreciate the genuine kindness and love of UK citizens.”

Nicholus Mukhwana from Kenya

“We exchanged perspectives on politics, religion, history, culture thing, which makes me feel this is such an inclusive and amazing family, feeling blessed and gratitude that we could meet each other via this programme. A big thank to the Host UK.)”

Xiaojing Kang from China

“They made me believe in values such as togetherness, tolerance and mutual respect for all cultures and genders.”

Sara Khan from Pakistan
For the data-fiends amongst us here are a few of HOST’s facts and figures for you.

In 2017 we saw a total of 1,817 visits and in 2018 a total of 1,848—an increase of 31 visits year on year. Another interesting highlight is the increasing popularity of day visits.

This colourful pie chart shows the top 20 countries of origin of our student guests. In 2018 students came from a total of 111 countries.

What could we conclude from this? A more sociable and adventurous nature in women?

Host enrolment has increased year on year, however, we can never be complacent. For some hosts an annual invitation is as much as busy lives allow, for others ill health compels retirement, so we always look to building up our bank of hosts. We always seek to meet the interest shown by international students applying for a visit. If you feel able to offer an extra invitation, please let your Regional Organiser know.
Tulimegameno from Namibia, studying at Salford University, enjoyed her stay with Roy and Kate. She writes enthusiastically of the visit they made together to Liverpool.

“I had a great time with my HOST family. Roy and Kate are such wonderful people. On Sunday, these beautiful-heart couples took me to Liverpool, where the advantage and exploration continued. We walked through the city center thru most of the world heritage sites including the Albert Dock, made a turn at The Beatles statues, thru William Brown Streets with all the magnificent theater buildings, went to the modern colorful Liverpool Metropolitan cathedral - amazing art pieces. But what took the cake is the Liverpool Cathedral, with a knives statue on the side*, this was just amazing and very huge cathedral. I was amazed by the amount of creative that went in.

My weekend was just awesome, full of fun, laughter- Roy and Kate have a great sense of humor and made me feel so comfortable and at home right away. I enjoyed Kate’s food and they kept feeding me with significant information about their town, wonderful stories about their lives, experiences and world travels. My weekend went by so quickly.

Let me thank HOST as well for creating this platform for students, especially International student, to engage and experience really home-based moments with UK families. It a wonderful opportunity and I wish all the countries can tap in and follow suits.”

*The knives statue to which Tuli refers to is called the Knife Angel sculpted by Alfie Bradley. It stands 27 feet high and is made up of 100,000 knives confiscated and also handed in during a knife amnesty. It serves as a memorial to those whose lives have been affected by knife crime.
Finished reading?...why not pass your HOST Matters on to a friend by way of telling them who we are and what you do….it could lead to your first recruit!

Turn Recycling into Recruitment!!!