

# Emerald Cultural Institute

YOUNG ADULTS • HOST FAMILY



ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
AND PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

[eci.ie](http://eci.ie)

# WELCOME TO EMERALD

Dear Student,

We are happy to welcome you to the Emerald Cultural Institute. We hope that you will enjoy your course at the school and your time in Ireland.

In this booklet you will find a lot of the information you might need about the school and the city of Dublin. Please take some time to read it and keep it until the end of your course.

If there is any information or advice not included here, please do not hesitate to ask any member of staff, as we all aim to make your language and cultural experience in Dublin both rewarding and memorable.

## **YOUR PROGRAMME INCLUDES:**

20 hours of English group tuition per week (60 minute lessons)

Use of textbooks and teaching materials

Diploma upon completion of course

Dublin city centre orientation on the first day

2 cultural activities per week and evening activities included

One full-day excursion every weekend to places of cultural interest

Welcome kit

Full-board accommodation in host family, with breakfast and dinner in the family and packed lunch (Monday-Friday)

# LOCATION



Students attend their classes in Alexandra College, Milltown, Dublin. Host families will be located within easy access to the school, either walking distance or on a direct bus or tram (LUAS) route. The school is connected to the city centre by the Luas line.

**Classes at:**  
Alexandra College,  
Milltown Road, Milltown,  
Dublin 6, Ireland.



## YOUR FIRST DAY

<b>9:00</b>	Arrive at Alexandra College – your host family will either bring you or explain to you how to arrive at the school
<b>9:30</b>	Welcome/Introduction for all young adult students with our Centre Manager. Receive Emerald ID card, travel pass.
<b>10:00</b>	City Centre Orientation
<b>12:30</b>	Lunch (packed lunch from host family)
<b>13:30</b>	Written and spoken placement test
<b>14:30</b>	Alexandra campus tour/orientation
<b>15:30</b>	Meet teacher and new classmates. Begin first English Lesson

\* Your classes will be held in the afternoon. Your tutor will confirm your schedule on the first day.



## SCHOOL INFORMATION

Alexandra College is well served by public transport including the green LUAS (tram) line and a number of Dublin Bus routes, which pass nearby the school grounds.

LUAS and Bus Services: The school is within 5 minutes walk of Milltown LUAS stop and only a few minutes from the 11 and 44 bus routes.

## TRANSPORT

Your host family will show you how to get to school on your first day. During orientation you will be provided with your transport pass, which you will then use to come and go from school every day. Don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Your transport pass will be provided to you on arrival or on your first morning in Emerald (depending on your arrival schedule). It is important to carry it with you at all time to avoid getting a fine. Lost transport passes will only be replaced at an extra cost, these are your own responsibility and we recommend you keep it stored safely in your purse or wallet.

## MEALS

All your meals are included. You will have breakfast and dinner at home with your host family and they will provide you with a packed lunch to bring to school every day.

At the weekend, you will also be provided with a packed lunch on the day of your excursion. Your host family will provide you with sheets and towels and will offer to do laundry on a weekly basis.

## TUTORS

You will have a tutor at Alexandra College, where your classes are held.

During the week, you will meet your tutor every day. Your tutor will inform you of your programme and you can talk to them if you have any issues or questions.

## LESSONS & ACTIVITIES

Lessons are 60 minutes long. Classes are Monday to Friday afternoons.

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**Evening activities will take place twice a week;** your tutor will inform you of the time and meeting point.

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**Students are expected to return to their host families no later than 11pm every evening.**

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**Students have two half-day activities and one full-day excursion per week.** Your tutor will inform you of your scheduled weekly activities.

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If you have any questions or issues, please speak to your tutor.

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Three afternoons per week you will have free time and are expected to return to your host family for your evening meal.

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**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance at class is compulsory and is the responsibility of each student.

Students are required to attend evening activities organised by the school.

**DRINKING**

It is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to buy, attempt to buy or consume alcohol in Ireland.

It is also illegal to obtain alcohol for anybody below the minimum age. Please be aware of these laws at all times. Students caught drinking or in possession of alcohol will be sent home.

**SMOKING**

Smoking is not permitted and smoking indoors is always prohibited.

**DRUGS**

Illicit drug use in Ireland will result in heavy punishments. There are strict laws in Ireland against the use of illegal drugs.

**PICKPOCKETS**

Be vigilant with your wallet/purse or other valuables particularly when travelling in a group. Don't carry large amounts of cash with you, only carry what you need.

It is not necessary for you to carry your passport with you in Ireland. Instead leave it at home in a safe place. If your wallet/purse or other valuables have been lost or stolen, report all items at the nearest Garda station.

**SHOPLIFTING**

Shoplifting is not tolerated in Ireland and will result in an arrest and possibly prosecution if an individual is found guilty of shoplifting.

**FIRE**

All students must leave the building if a fire alarm is sounded. Tampering with the fire extinguishers or smoke detectors or setting off a false fire alarm will be cause for severe disciplinary action and a substantial fine.

**RESPECT YOUR HOST FAMILY**

Please do not make any noise in your room, corridor or in the shared areas that could disturb other residents of the house.

Students must be respectful of the furniture and fixtures of the home & any damage or breakages must be paid for.

**HOST FAMILY RULES****DO:**

Carry your student card given to you by the Emerald Cultural Institute. It has all of the contact information for the host family and school.

Stay with the guide and group at all times when on activities and excursions.

Look right before crossing the road.

Remember that in Ireland cars travel on the left.

Give the host family a letter from the school when you have any evening or weekend activities as soon as you receive it.

Be friendly and polite with your host family and other students staying there.

Respect the host family's house rules.

Respect your curfew time of 11pm.

There are no exceptions to this rule even with permission from parents or guardians.

Your host family will inform us if you do not return home in time.

**DON'T:**

Carry large sums of money with you.

Carry your passport around with you.

In Ireland it is not necessary to carry official identification with you.

Buy cigarettes or alcohol; it is illegal for anyone under 18 and is against the school rules.

Enter premises licensed to sell alcohol (e.g. a pub)

Students may not stay in the host family home during normal school hours unless they are ill.

Students will not be given a key to the house.

# DUBLIN INFORMATION

## THINGS TO DO IN AND AROUND DUBLIN

### Free Indoor Venues

**Dundrum centre:** For shopping, eating out and cinema;  
[www.dundrum.ie](http://www.dundrum.ie)

**Irish Museum of Modern Art**  
[www.modernart.ie](http://www.modernart.ie)

**Hugh Lane Gallery**  
[www.hughlane.ie](http://www.hughlane.ie)

**National Photographic Archive**

**St Mary's Abbey**  
[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

**Chester Beatty Library**  
[www.cbl.ie](http://www.cbl.ie)

**Whitefriar church** – containing the remains of St Valentine

### Suggestions for scenic walks, within a short train /bus journey of Dublin City

**Marley Park**, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14.

**Dún Laoghaire** – Victorian Harbour Town.

**Dalkey** – Quaint fishing village 30 minutes south of Dublin City.

**Bray & Greystones** – Victorian seaside resort & coastal walk.

**Howth** – Beautiful coastline fishing village just outside of the city

### City Centre Parks & Squares – pockets of calm in the city centre

**St. Stephen's Green**

**Merrion Square**

**Trinity College Dublin grounds**

**Phoenix Park**

**Meeting House Square, Temple Bar** – traditional farmer's market Saturday morning.



### Things that can be seen in an afternoon:

**City Centre Orientation:** The City Centre Orientation is the perfect introduction to Dublin City Centre, and an important activity for new students who want to get their bearings and meet other students.

**Christ Church Cathedral**

**Dublin Castle**

**Museum of Literature Ireland (MOLI)**

**The GAA Museum**

**Trinity College & Book of Kells**

**Guinness Storehouse\***

**Kilmainham Gaol**

**National Gallery**

**National Museum- Kildare Street**

**Collins Barracks Museum**

**Natural History Museum**

**Phoenix Park Visitors Centre**

**St. Patrick's Cathedral**

\*you must be over 18

## SOME TIPS ABOUT DUBLIN



Irish Seafood is one of the best things Ireland has to offer – if you don't make it to Clare where the seafood chowder is amazing, make sure to make it to Howth where during the week Beshoffs serve fish & chips.

Make sure to watch some Irish sport – Gaelic Football, Hurling and Rugby all make for an exciting afternoon!

In the event that you have forgotten items of clothing, or pieces of luggage have been delayed, head to Penneys! It is the cheapest department store in Ireland – you will find everything you need at a great price!

Irish breakfasts are world famous – don't leave without having a proper fry – black pudding, white pudding, rashers, sausages, eggs and potato farls. Famous cafés like Bewleys or the Avoca Café near Trinity College offer delicious Irish breakfasts!

Ireland's National Galleries and Museums are really fantastic (and entrance to most is free) – but the smaller galleries are also worth a look – Temple Bar has many, including the fantastic Gallery of Photography in Meeting House Square.

If you're looking for some special restaurants or cafes in Dublin, Butlers Chocolate Cafés, with its numerous locations in the city centre and a café in Dundrum Town centre, make a delicious cappuccino or hot chocolate and you get a free chocolate with your drink! For Irish pastries head to Avoca.

For fun meal ideas try the Hard Rock Café on Fleet Street or Eddie Rockets all around the city.



**Make sure to watch some Irish sport – Gaelic Football, Hurling and Rugby all make for an exciting afternoon!**

# SHOPPING

**City centre shops:** Grafton Street and Henry Street are the most popular shopping areas in the city centre. Shops are open late until 21.00 on Thursday evenings.

**Dundrum Town Centre:** Late night shopping, eating out or cinema. Monday – Friday shops open until 21.00. Dundrum, Dublin 14.

[www.dundrum.ie](http://www.dundrum.ie)

**Powerscourt Town Centre:** Speciality shopping centre with Irish fashion designers, restaurants, art galleries and antiques. City Centre, Dublin 2.

[www.powerscourtcentre.com](http://www.powerscourtcentre.com)

**Ilac Shopping Centre:** Many top retailers, Ticketmaster and Supermarkets. City centre shopping centre, Dublin 1.

[www.ilac.ie](http://www.ilac.ie)

**Stephen’s Green Shopping Centre:** Located at the Luas terminus at St. Stephen’s Green. There are a range of Shops including Dunnes and Carroll’s Gift shop, a food court, Ticketmaster and much more.

[www.stephensgreen.com](http://www.stephensgreen.com)

**George’s St Arcade:** Colourful indoor market with quirky stalls and unusual restaurants. City Centre, Dublin 2.

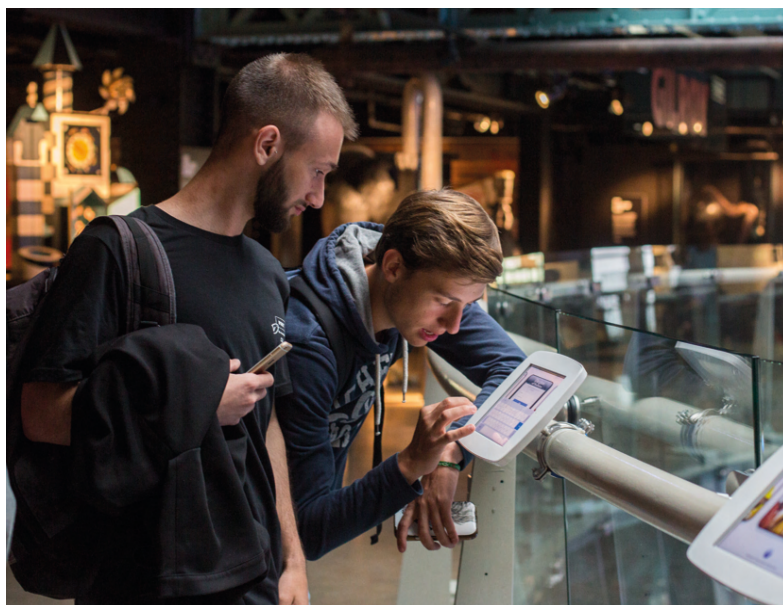
[www.georgesstreetarcade.ie](http://www.georgesstreetarcade.ie)

**Jervis Shopping Centre:** Located at the Jervis Luas Station. Has a number of top retail shops, a food court and supermarkets. Located in the city centre.

[www.jervis.ie](http://www.jervis.ie)

**Arnotts:** Located on Henry Street in the City Centre, Arnotts has a number of clothing, beauty, home and leisure stores as well as many more.

[www.arnotts.ie](http://www.arnotts.ie)





# MEDICAL INFORMATION

## SCHOOL: ALEXANDRA COLLEGE

### Doctor: Ranelagh Medical

22 – 26 Sandford Road, Ranelagh, Dublin 6

Phone: +353 1 4986900

Additional Information: Phone in advance for an appointment

Bring E111 (European Health Insurance Card) or private medical insurance documentation with you.

### Surgery Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday	8.00 – 17.30
Tuesday	8.00 – 17.30
Saturday, Sunday	closed
Out of hours – doctor on duty	+353 1 4539333

### Useful Phone Numbers

#### Local Pharmacies

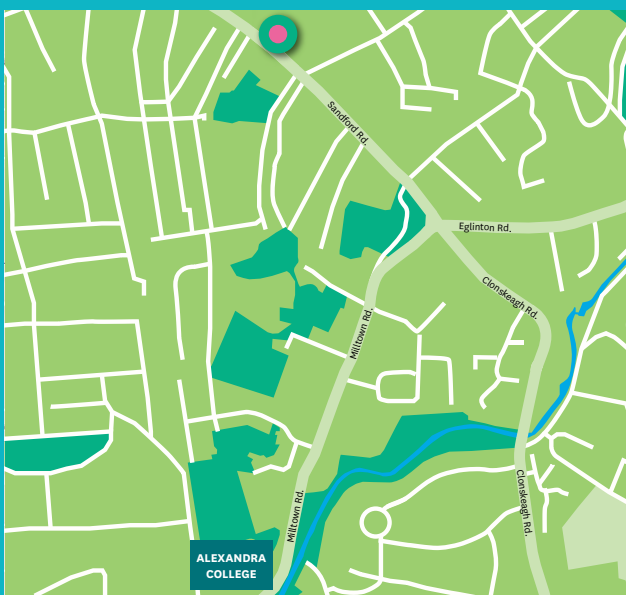
Meagher's Pharmacy	+353 1 4971665
Burke's Pharmacy	+353 1 4972190

#### Local Hospitals

St Vincent's Hospital	+353 1 2214000
St. Vincent's Private Hospital	+353 1 2214000

#### Local Garda (Police) Station

Donnybrook Garda Station	+353 1 6669200
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#### Directions from Alexandra College:

1. At school entrance, turn **left**.
2. Continue walking **until the crossroad**.
3. Turn **left**.
4. Continue walking and Ranelagh Medical will be on your **right**.

# GENERAL & PRACTICAL INFORMATION



## MEDICAL INFORMATION

All students studying in Ireland should obtain appropriate medical insurance in their own country before departure. Students travelling from EU countries should bring their European Health Insurance with them. Non-EU students should bring a copy of their insurance policy with them when travelling.

Our on-site team will be happy to assist with making the arrangements for students who require medical attention. We would ask that parents or group leaders inform us at the time of booking about any conditions or relevant medical information which we should be aware of, so we can inform our staff.

Students should cover the cost of transport if required for any medical visits. Group leaders are required to accompany their students to doctors/ hospitals and for individual junior students a member of our staff will accompany and stay them.

## SAFETY

We advise all students not to carry large amounts of cash, ID or travel documents on their person during their stay.

## SMOKING/ ALCOHOL/ ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

Smoking is prohibited inside the school property. Alcohol is strictly forbidden on campus. Consumption or possession of alcohol or any illegal substances will result in immediate expulsion.





## HEALTH & SAFETY

As part of their welcome orientation students and group leaders are required to attend a short briefing on the Safety regulations. The briefing includes an introduction to life in the school, security of personal property and fire safety.

Group leaders and students will also receive details of First Aid procedures, which they should follow in the event of an accident.

## EMERALD STUDENT IDENTITY CARD

All students are issued with an Emerald Cultural Institute student ID card on their arrival. Students should carry their student ID with them at all times.

## STUDENT SUPERVISION

Our team of Managers, Teachers and our Activity leaders are there to provide the highest level of service to our students during their stay. Our students' welfare is a priority on all our programmes and our staff are there to ensure that students enjoy every aspect of their stay with us.

In their orientation students meet the staff that will assist them during their stay and accompany them on their activities.

## DISCIPLINE AND BREACH OF CONDUCT

If students' behaviour or conduct is unsatisfactory or in breach of the school regulations, they will be subject to our disciplinary procedures. A serious breach of conduct may result in expulsion.



**24-hour emergency number**

+353-(0)86-8112047

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cultural institute

Experience Tradition, Embrace Innovation