

SUMMER CAMP HANDBOOK 2026



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WELCOME

At Donegal English Language School our team of teachers, coordinators and office staff will always be on hand to help and support students travelling for our various summer camp programmes

Our summer camp programmes run from June - August. These stays are normally two weeks long, arriving and departing on Sundays and consist of individual students from various countries



Gina Witherow,
Owner and Director

SUMMER CAMP PROGRAMMES



Multi - activity



Horse riding



Surfing



The following information aims to inform students of their role whilst here, how they can work with us to ensure a great experience for themselves and how we help and support them during their stay.

Remember while they are here, our Camp Supervisors and Coordinator Team are always on hand to help and support

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF STUDENTS?



Respect. Students must treat staff and other students with respect. Respect the school and residence area



No bullying. Bullying of any nature will not be tolerated and can result in a student being sent home. Students are expected to report any bullying to a member of staff



Speak English. Students are expected to try and speak English at all times. At school, during activities and at their residence.



Respect of surroundings. Students are expected to tidy up after themselves.

TERMINAL 1

Our bus driver will meet the students at Dublin Airport terminal pick up point. On entrance of arrivals in **Terminal 1** please make your way over to the **right**. You will see a sign saying Meeting point. Under or around this sign will be a Donegal Language School representative waiting to meet you with a Donegal English Language School Sign.

TERMINAL 2

If they are flying into **Terminal 2** (Aer Lingus), please make your way to the **right** towards the shop, and one of our representatives will be there to meet you. Under or around this sign will be a Donegal Language School representative waiting to meet you with a Donegal English Language School Sign.



ARRIVAL



We are based 3 hours by car/ 3 hours and 25 minutes by bus from Dublin airport.



Group transfers are between 11 am - 6pm for arrivals and departures.

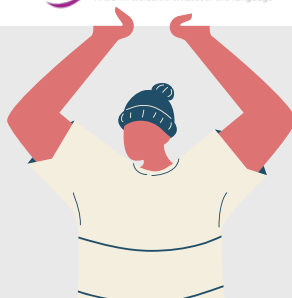


Our office staff will be aware of your flight details for arrival and departure in advance.

LOOK OUT FOR THIS SIGN AT THE MEETING POINT

COORDINATOR CONTACT NUMBER:
00 353 86 2722495

Donegal English
Language
School
A warm welcome whatever the language



ARRIVAL

Bus will stop en route for a break for students.

Bus driver contact details will be sent to you or your agent in advance of arrival

There will be food on arrival for students. (Dinner / snack depending on when they arrive)

ARRIVAL

WELCOME PRESENTATION

ON ARRIVAL WE WILL DELIVER A WELCOME PRESENTATION GIVING ALL THE RELEVANT INFORMATION NEEDED FOR THE STUDENTS STAY.



WELCOME PRESENTATION



Our coordinator team
will meet your group



Students will see their
itinerary for the week



Students will be told the rules
of the camp

ACCOMMODATION

ACCOMMODATION TYPES



RESIDENTIAL



HOST FAMILY

BENEFITS OF RESIDENTIAL

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION OFFERS STUDENTS AN EXPERIENCE WHERE THEY CAN SOCIALISE WITH STUDENTS OF A RANGE OF NATIONALITIES.



Activity
Room



Kitchen



Student
Lounge



Weekly
Cleaning



Social
Environment

BENEFITS OF HOST FAMILY

HOST FAMILY ACCOMMODATION ALLOWS STUDENTS TO STAY WITH A LOCAL IRISH FAMILY AND IMMERSE IN IRISH CULTURE.



Cultural
Immersion



Homemade
Meals



Home
Environment



Everyday
language



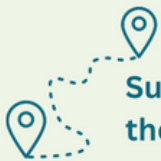
Live like a
local

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION



Surfers' Bay

- **Surfers Bay** is our main residential accommodation
- **15 minute's walk** from the school and **5 minutes** from the centre of town
- **Sleeps 45** in shared rooms of various sizes
- Students will be separated into **boys and girls**
- Coordinators will also be staying in Surfers Bay to ensure the safety of the students



Surfers Bay is located 15 minutes walk from the school



RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION



Portbeg Houses

- **Three minutes walk** from the school and fifteen **minutes** from the centre of town
- **Sleeps ten per house per house**
- Unless otherwise arranged, the group leader will stay in the houses, in a private room
- Residential accommodation may at times be shared between different groups
- Each house has four bedrooms, three to four bathrooms and communal areas

Portbeg is located 3 minutes walk from the school



RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION



Zephyr Lodge

- **Five minutes walk** from the school and ten **minutes** from the centre of town
- **Sleeps 15 in shared rooms of various sizes**
- Unless otherwise arranged, the group leader will stay in the houses, in a private room
- Residential accommodation may at times be shared between different groups



Zephyr Lodge is located 5 minutes walk from the school



RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION



Casa Del Mar

- **Five minutes walk** from the school and ten **minutes** from the centre of town
- **Sleeps 15 in shared rooms of various sizes**
- Unless otherwise arranged, the group leader will stay in the houses, in a private room
- Residential accommodation may at times be shared between different groups

Casa Del Mar is located 5 minutes walk from the school



HOST FAMILIES

BENEFITS



See local attractions



Cultural Immersion



Home environment



Home meals



WHAT TO EXPECT

Host family students will arrive to Surfers Bay where they will meet the DELS team before being introduced to their host family, who will collect them once they have had their welcome presentation.

Students will have a room either to themselves or shared with other students.

The host family will provide breakfast, a packed lunch and dinner for the students staying with them.

THE SCHOOL



This stunning Georgian building in the West End of Bundoran is the heart of the DELS operation. This is where the students will go for English class every day and where our management and admin team are based

Our teaching staff, led By Director of Studies, will ensure students are allocated to the right class level. The timing of English classes is dependent on the programme and activities



The school is also where residential students are given lunch and dinner in the DELS canteen. We pride ourselves on freshly prepared meal options.

The kitchen can and will cater for special dietary requirements, however, only if advised at enrolment stage

THE LANGUAGE SCHOOL



4 Classrooms



Canteen



Outdoor
area



Accredited



WI-FI



Organic
Garden

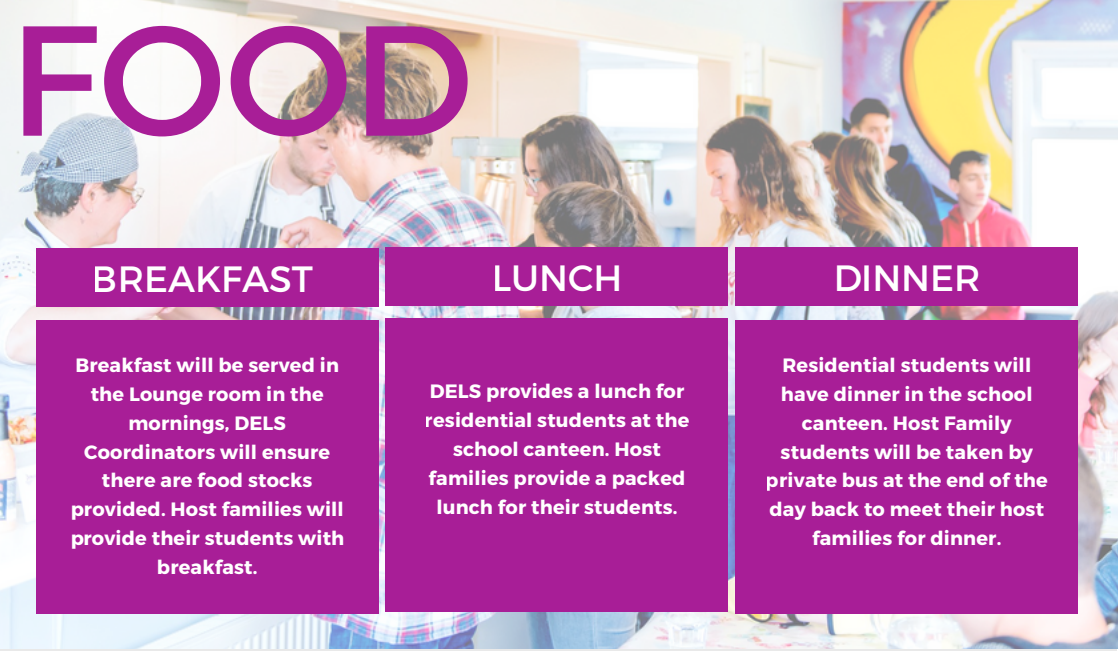
The school consists of **4 classrooms** and a **canteen** along with an **outdoor green area**

The students are free to socialise outside on the green between class and during breaks, which are supervised by our teachers

Our ethos is to **learn by doing** and to ensure students are engaged using our project-based approach to learning



FOOD



BREAKFAST

Breakfast will be served in the Lounge room in the mornings, DELS Coordinators will ensure there are food stocks provided. Host families will provide their students with breakfast.

LUNCH

DELS provides a lunch for residential students at the school canteen. Host families provide a packed lunch for their students.

DINNER

Residential students will have dinner in the school canteen. Host Family students will be taken by private bus at the end of the day back to meet their host families for dinner.

Coordinators will help to lay out food for breakfast in residential, but it is the students responsibility to:

1

Clean up after themselves at breakfast and be helpful in their host families

2

Be ready to leave on time for class or activities at the correct meeting point and dressed appropriately

3

Ensure they are seated in a calm organised fashion and that they behave themselves while having lunch and respect the staff and food

ALLERGIES AND DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

BREAKFAST

Speak to a coordinator to order food for the next day to keep stocks updated for dietary requirements, i.e. lactose or gluten free

LUNCH AND DINNER

Students with special dietary requirements (that have been notified in advance) will be served their meals first

ITINERARY

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Times	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7.00 - 8.00	Breakfast							
8.00 - 9.00	Travel to activity or class							
9.15- 12.30	Arrivals and Departures	ENGLISH OR ACTIVITY	ENGLISH OR ACTIVITY	ENGLISH OR ACTIVITY	ENGLISH OR ACTIVITY	ENGLISH OR ACTIVITY	Full day excursion	Arrivals and Departures
12-30	First Lunch sitting 12.30pm						Packed Lunch	
13-15	Second lunch sitting 1.15pm							
14.00 - 17.15	Arrivals and Departures	ENGLISH OR ACTIVITY	ENGLISH OR ACTIVITY	ENGLISH OR ACTIVITY	ENGLISH OR ACTIVITY	ENGLISH OR ACTIVITY	Full day excursion	Arrivals and Departures
17-30	Host Family Bus collection			All on Campus	Host Family bus collection		All on campus	
18-30	First Dinner Sitting							
	Second dinner sitting							
19.00 - 21.00	Arrivals and Departures	Evening Activity - Social Theme	Evening Activity - Sports Theme	Evening Activity - Bowling	Evening Activity - Environmental Theme	Evening Activity - Creative Theme	Disco	7.30 first dinner sitting 8.30pm second dinner sitting
21.00 - 22.00	Free time before bed							
22.00 - 23.00	Bed time - lights out 23.00							

STUDENTS SCHEDULE

Each students schedule will be specific to that student.

They will be given an itinerary specific to them in advance to their arrival. And while all itineraries are subject to change due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances the itinerary is what we will be delivering for the student.



ITINERARY

AFTER BREAKFAST / LUNCH

- Students will know from their schedule if they are doing English in the morning or activities

AFTER DINNER

- Each evening, the students will return to the residence and be under our care.
- On **Wednesday evenings**, we have an activity for all students which is bowling or cinema.
- After their activity, students will have free time before bed at 10pm when they must return to their rooms. They have 1 hour before lights must be turned off for 11pm.
- Bedtime must be maintained as students have a very busy week and need as much sleep as possible to ensure their energy for the week's activities.

WEDNESDAY

Each Wednesday evening **ALL students** (including those staying with Host Family) and will go either to bowling or the cinema, depending on the week.



Walk
students to
activity



Remind
students to
bring money



Monitor
students
across 2 floors



Ensure silence
during movie



Respect
environment
and staff

EXCURSION

MOST EXCURSIONS INCLUDE A HIKE FOLLOWED BY SHOPPING. EXCURSIONS MAY CHANGE IF WEATHER IS UNSUITABLE.

Every week there is an excursion option. You must:

- Wake with the students at 8:30am as their bus will be leaving at 9:30am for their day out/excursion.
- Ensure that your students have a jacket in case it rains and their money
- Have all of their phone numbers in case you need to contact them.



THINGS TO NOTE

Students are allowed to explore the city, however, they must stay in groups and be sure not to leave anyone on their own. While they do this, you are free to enjoy some time off around the city.

A packed lunch will be brought for each residential student and handed out during the trip at a location where they can all enjoy it. Host family students get their packed lunch from their host family.

However, you are responsible for ensuring your students are back on the bus on time.

CLEANING

SCHEDULE

SURFERS BAY

BEDROOMS CLEANED WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY

Common areas are cleaned daily. It is the responsibility of the group leader to ensure that students have all their belongings off the floor for the cleaners.

On Sundays the beds must be clear of belongings as the sheets are changed.

Towels are changed once per week.

PORTBEG

TUESDAY/THURSDAY / SUNDAY

It is the responsibility of the group leader to ensure that students have all their belongings off the floor for the cleaners. On Sundays the beds must be clear of belongings as the sheets are changed.

Towels are changed once per week.



DEPARTURES

CONTACT OUR OFFICE A FEW DAYS BEFORE YOU TRAVEL, WE WILL GIVE YOU THE NAME AND MOBILE NUMBER FOR THE DRIVER.



NIGHT BEFORE CHECKLIST

- ✓ Check your students have their Passports / Identity Card
- ✓ Make sure their bags are the correct weight.
- ✓ If your students are below 15, that you have the appropriate paperwork for their flight (Unaccompanied Minor Form)
- ✓ That your students have cleaned the rubbish from their room and will leave it the way they found it.
- ✓ Remember that boarding passes can be printed if requested
- ✓ That any damage done to any room is reported to staff

THINGS TO NOTE

Students will be given a snack pack on departure. From their host family, or from our canteen if in residential

On departure, your bus will leave Donegal English Language School seven hours before your flight departure time. This is to allow for both transfer times and check-in times.

If your group has booked "Dublin Tour on Departure" you will go from the school to tour before departing for the airport

F.A.Q.S

Who do I contact if I have a problem?

You can ask any coordinator or Supervisor if you have any issues.

For General Questions and advance queries call the **office on 00 353 7198 41288**

For Questions while in camp about your schedule, changes or updates phone the **Camp Supervisor team 00 353 86 2722495**

For serious issues or emergency call the **General Manager Daniel 00 353 87 3587367**

Where can I find the students timetable?

You will be given a timetable on arrival. A copy can also be at the entrance of Surfers Bay and in the activity room in Surfers Bay. We are delighted to have you come and stay with us. Any questions or queries, please ask and we will be happy to help.

What should I advise students to bring?

One towel is provided per student per week, but they may bring their own additional if they wish. There are some hairdryers available in residence for students. PLEASE ENSURE STUDENTS BRING APPROPRIATE CLOTHING FOR A TRIP TO THE WILD ATLANTIC WAY – THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS BAD WEATHER – JUST BAD CLOTHES!!

What do I do in my free time?

You can organise some of the activities with the students, or take the time to explore Bundoran! We will give you further suggestions in our meeting on arrival.

Do I see the students when they are in class?

On the last day of class, we encourage group leaders to attend and watch students deliver their final project presentation.

Where do the students keep their valuables?

Once the presentation is over, Group Leaders need to collect students passports and any other valuable items they do wish to have kept safe during their stay. This can include tablets, wallets, money, airpods etc. Camp Supervisors can lock these in their office for you.

Money and valuables are kept in an envelope and money is signed out to students by the Group Leader as it is needed.

Please note that each student is required to retain 50 euro until the end of their stay as a security deposit. In the event of damage to the property being sustained the security deposit will be retained by DELS.



ENJOY YOUR STAY AT DELS!



— A warm welcome to learn the language —