**Who will meet me at the airport and where?**

You will be met by AFS volunteers at the airport. Thevolunteers will be in the arrival entrance.

**How will I recognize the people who will meet me at the airport?**

The volunteers with be holding an AFS sign and will be wearing clearly visible yellow safety vests.

**How will I travel to my host community and when will I meet my host family?**

You will travel to your host community the day of your international arrival into New Zealand.

\* Students placed in the Auckland region will be picked up by their host family from the airport upon arrival. If their host family is unable to pick them up, AFS volunteers will organize travel.

\* Students placed in the central North Island region will either be picked up by their host family or will take a bus/flight to their chapter.

\* All other students will fly domestically from the Auckland airport to their host community. They will be met by their host families upon arrival.

**How will I get to the arrival orientation site?**

Arrival orientation will take place in your host chapter within the first week after arrival. Your host family or your local support person will take you to the arrival orientation.

**Where will the orientation take place?**

The arrival orientation is done at a local level close to where you live.

**Will there be a tour of the city during the orientation?**

Many students are not placed in cities in New Zealand. Sightseeing is not part of the orientation.

**How long is the orientation?**

The arrival orientation session is quite short and covers essential information. It usually takes no more than about 4 hours at the most. In addition to the Arrival Orientation, all students attend a regional Gateway Orientation in late March/early April which is often held over a weekend.

**Should I prepare a cultural activity or bring a costume for the orientation?**

Yes! It’s always good to be prepared.

**What type of activities will happen during orientation?**

The Gateway Orientation will be a time to assess how students are coping, help with adaptation issues, for you to meet and interact with other AFS participants, and to review the material in the ‘Haere Mai’ Welcome Booklet.

**What materials do I need bring with me to the orientation?**

You should bring your copy of ‘Haere Mai’ Welcome Booklet.

**Will I have access to my luggage during the arrival orientation?**

Yes.

**Will I need to pack a separate bag for orientation? Do I need to pack a towel?**

No.

**Will there be participants from other AFS countries attending the orientation? If so, from which countries and approximately how many participants?**

Yes local chapters and communities include all hosted participants in the arrival orientation. It depends on which chapter you’re in as to how many and which countries the other students will be from. In some areas of NZ you will be the only hosted student and in other areas there could be up to ten participants hosted in your area.

**Will I need money during the orientation?**

No.

**Will I have a chance to exchange money between the time of arrival and the end of orientation?**

Yes, at the airport or upon arrival in your host community;

**How soon after arrival does school begin?**

In 2017, schools are scheduled to start at any time between 30 January and 07 February. Every school chooses their own start date which means this varies considerable throughout the country. Students who arrive after school has started will not miss too much, as many schools do not start formal classes immediately.