

LOOP: Learning Outcomes for YFU Orientation Programs

As an educational organization, YFU emphasizes orientation programs for all participants, so that they may reach an optimal level of educational benefits, both for their own growth and as a contribution to international and intercultural understanding, cooperation, and respect for diversity and peace from their program participation. Orientation in this sense is an ongoing process that begins before the student's departure for their host country and continues throughout and beyond their exchange experience.

| | PRE-DEPARTURE | POST-ARRIVAL |
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| Culture <i>Defining and understanding the concept of culture.</i> | Natural parents will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand the concept of culture in terms of object, behaviors, values. 2. Know one cultural framework (e.g. Hall's culture model/ Hofstede's dimensions, etc.) that will help them to recognize the differences and compare cultures. 3. Understand how learning (personal and cultural) occurs through an exchange program. | Natural parents will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be able to recall the definition of culture worked on at PDO. |
| My Culture <i>Understanding my culture and how that culture encompasses and influences lifestyles, behaviors, values and worldviews.</i> | Natural parents will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be aware of their own cultural background (values, behaviors, objects/artifacts). 2. Have realized what their own family culture is (e.g. implicit rules). 3. Be aware that their own culture influences their expectations towards the exchange experience. | Natural parents will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have realized how their family culture has changed after the child is gone. |
| The Other Culture <i>Understanding a different culture and how that culture encompasses and influences lifestyles, behaviors, values and worldviews.</i> | Natural parents will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gain understanding of key elements (e.g. structure of the family, practical information, school system) of the other culture. 2. Gain understanding of what it is like to be a host family. | No orientation needed, but they can be provided with different opportunities of reflecting on the exchange experience as parents. |
| Adaptation <i>Developing the necessary abilities and tools to reconcile the differences between two cultures.</i> | Natural parents will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know of student's adjustment curve/cycle (utilizing the YFU adjustment curve model). 2. Be able to identify signs and symptoms of the culture chock. 3. Understand how the communication between student and National Parents affect student's adaptation in Host Country and Host Family. 4. Be committed to let go of day-to-day parental responsibilities and rely on YFU and the host family for the best interest of their son/daughter. | Natural parents will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand how their own behavior may affect their son's/daughter's exchange experience. 2. Be aware that they are also leaning from the exchange year of their son/daughter. |

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| | <p>5. Understand that the natural family dynamic will change with the absence of their son/daughter.</p> | |
| YFU General | <p>Natural Parents will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be aware of YFU's history, mission and philosophy as an educational exchange organisation 2. Be aware that exchange is experiential learning for students and natural and host families 3. Understand the expectations YFU has of them as Natural Parents and of their student child as an exchange student | <p>Natural Families will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to identify the strengths and weakness of the sending organisations pre-departure orientations, logistics and procedures either in parent meetings or by natural parent surveys |
| YFU Support "Communication and Support Structure in YFU" | <p>Natural Parents will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be aware of the YFU worldwide structure to support students in their adjustment to a new cultural context and their host family 2. Understand the communication channels in the sending organisation for them as Natural Parents 3. Understand YFU procedures for problem solving for students on exchange 4. Understand how to communicate the YFU volunteers and national office staff for information, advice or support during their child's exchange | |
| Student Safety and Well Being | <p>Natural Parents will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand YFU guidelines for student's safe use of social media, internet and cell phones 2. Understand the nature of sexual harassment, physical abuse and bullying including cyber bullying 3. Understand YFU procedures where students disclose incidents of sexual harassment ,abuse or bullying | |
| YFU Rules | <p>Natural Parents will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand the Worldwide procedures and student policies particularly as they relate to student travel, communication with their student child and host family and visits to their child during the exchange program 2. Be aware of the YFU procedures for problem solving for their child while on exchange 3. Understand the procedures for issuance of warning and probation letters if required and for ER or IER if required | |

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| YFU Admin | Natural Parents will: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be aware the content of the YFU travel and medical insurance policy and procedures for making an insurance claim2. Be aware of YFU's travel procedures to support and assist students at departure , in transit and on arrival3. Understand the visa application process and the documentation required from them and from YFU | |
| YFU Community | Natural Parents will: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be aware of the value of hosting2. Be able to contact other YFU families and volunteers for support during their child's exchange | |