

Guardianship Agencies used by parents at Merchiston, Edinburgh

AEGIS (Association for the Education and Guardianship of International Students)

Aegis is an association of 27 Guardianship Services originally set up by Gabbitas Educational Consultants. AEGIS can be contacted via the Gabbitas (or other agency) website(s) or at www.aegisuk.net/. Some schools, including Merchiston, are also members of AEGIS and we follow the guidelines laid down by them; by the Care Inspectorate Scotland, and by the Scottish Council for Independent Schools (SCIS), for the administration of our guardianship arrangements.

A full list of agencies which are members of AEGIS (and further information on each) can be viewed on the AEGIS website under the link to 'membership'. The majority of AEGIS agencies are based in England but can make arrangements in Scotland: the following agencies particularly have host families and contacts in Scotland.

Agencies which are members of AEGIS with links in Scotland

Bright World Guardianship Service

Forge House, 105 High Street, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex BN6 9PU

Tel: +44 (0)1273 835745

Fax: +44 (0)1273 831295

Email: Various addresses: please see website for links.

Website: <http://www.brightworld.co.uk/> (Online application available)

Bright World Guardianships, though based in West Sussex, England, have a representative in Scotland who makes arrangements for host families.

Study Links International

Mrs Angela Fan

The Glade, 4 Park Bottom, Low Moor, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD12 0UA, England

Tel: +44 (0)1274 670784

Fax: +44 (0)1274 603029

Email: info@studylinks.co.uk

Website: www.studylinks.co.uk

<http://xiaozu.renren.com/xiaozu/236830/thread>.

Academic Families

Mrs Lorna Clayton

1 Wester Dalmeny Steading, Dalmeny, Edinburgh EH30 9TT

Tel: +44 (0)131 331 3317

Mobile: +44 (0)773 484 9554

Email: lorna@academicfamilies.com

Website: www.academicfamilies.com

Other agencies, though not currently members of AEGIS, are based in Scotland. All have students from Merchiston placed with them, and we have worked with them for a number of years.

Scottish Overseas Guardianship Association (SOGA)

Mrs Pam Keracher

52 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0PB, Scotland, UK

Tel: +44 (0)1738 562036

Fax: +44 (0) 1738 562036

Mobile: 07762 791805

Email: pamkerachersoga@hotmail.co.uk

Guardian Agencies make a charge for their services. In addition there are charges payable to the host family who look after children during half-terms and exeat weekends. The charges vary from one agency to another, but on average the first year of guardianship may cost about £1000, including Registration Fees. Charges for later years may be less. Some agencies offer lower charges to students staying for shorter periods, eg 1 year or 2 terms, or to Sixth Form students. Please note that guardianship is very important for the care and welfare of your son and is a requirement of the School.