



PUPILS' EXCHANGE PROGRAMME BETWEEN GERMANY AND SOUTH AFRICA

2018

December 2018 – January 2019 (6 and 4 weeks)

THE HEADMASTER / THE HEADMISTRESS

THE TEACHER (-S) RESPONSIBLE FOR ENGLISH / AFRIKAANS / GERMAN

The FSA Youth Exchange, once again, invites learners from your school to apply to take part in the FSA pupils' exchange programme between South Africa and Germany.

German as a school subject is not compulsory to take part these programmes.

The FSA Youth Exchange (FSA = Freundeskreis für Südafrika / Friends of South Africa) is a non-governmental, non-political and non-denominational pupils' exchange organisation, registered in South Africa, registration number: (1997 / 06295 / 23).

2017 top schools in the FSA programme

Hoërskool Menlopark, Pretoria - 10 participants
C & N Hoër Meisieskool Oranje, Bloemfontein - 8 participants
Afrikaanse Hoër Meisieskool, Pretoria - 7 participants
Bethlehem Voortrekker Hoërskool, Bethlehem - 7 participants
Eunice High School, Bloemfontein - 7 participants



To date an impressive number of 4 574 learners took part in our exchange programme.

1. THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT

1.1 Exposure to the way of living and reasoning of a different culture

The stay at an **ordinary** German family enables the participant to broaden his / her views, knowledge and opinions on various cultural backgrounds.

1.2 Young Ambassadors for South Africa

Participants experience the different educational systems first hand and have the opportunity to educate German learners by representing South Africa and sharing our cultural and national history in the form of a presentation whilst attending the German schools.

1.3 Personal growth and development of each participant

The impact the stay abroad has on the intellectual and personal development of our pupils is noteworthy. The feedback and achievements of ex-participants are testimonial to this effect.

2. DETAILS ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

2.1 Selected South African participants stay for 1 month with a German host family (4 week programmes). Participants in the 6 week programme stay for 6 weeks with a German host family. They are considered a member of the family and not a guest or a tourist. This includes sharing the normal household duties and German cuisine.

2.2 Although the participants in the 4 and 6 week programmes do not formally participate in tuition, school attendance is compulsory on the days schools are open. The participant will be expected to attend a local German school to experience the difference in educational systems.

2.3 We expect the German families to continue with their normal way of living while the guest is there.

2.4 Private visits are allowed only during the last 4 days, 3 nights of stay in Germany.

2.5 Depending on interest, we will offer a tour to Switzerland and/or France at the end of the programmes. Seats are limited and successful participants will be invited to apply for the tour.

3. CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

3.1 **The FSA is a cultural exchange programme and not a travel agency.** The participant will be staying with an ordinary German family. We do not offer a tour to Europe. The participant is not allowed to use the family as free accommodation to enable him/her to do private trips. The programme is aimed at the youth and parents are not allowed to stay with the host families.

3.2 South African citizens aged 15 to 19 years, registered at a school in South Africa, may apply.

3.3 Application does not automatically mean participation. Candidates have to complete our selection process. Details about the selection process will be made available later. The results are final and no correspondence will be entered into.

3.4 It is impossible for a normal working family to entertain the guest 24 hours per day. A certain degree of independence and self-confidence are vital, especially if the family has younger children only. The applicant must be prepared to stay either in a city or in the countryside.

3.5 A shy person will find it hard to adapt to the German way of living. There will be trying times. The ideal candidate should be able to handle these situations without withdrawing himself/herself.

3.6 The selected participants must be well informed about South Africa and Germany. Good communication skills should be portrayed by the applicant.

3.7 The participant must be fluent in English. German as a school subject is not compulsory for these programmes.

3.8 The selected participant will act as a 'Young Ambassador' for South Africa. The relevant headmaster / mistress therefore needs to approve the participation of each applicant. We will send the list of names to the school for approval.

3.9 An email address is compulsory for all candidates as all communication is by email.

3.10 In Germany pets receive five star treatment. Participants need to accept and live with the pets.

3.11 The selected candidate must adapt to the German cuisine. **No special meals will be provided.**

3.12 Although it is expected of participants to have an own view about various subjects, no racism or sexism will be tolerated.



3.13 An exchange programme is a reciprocal agreement and participants have to host a German FSA-participant within 18 months of own participation for the same period of time, or provide a suitable host family. A surcharge of R3 000.00 will be levied if you are not available to host a German guest.

Grade 11 and 12 participants: If it is impossible for you to host before own participation, the surcharge of R3 000,00 will be levied automatically.

4. DATES

December/January programme (6-weeks)

26/11/2018 – 08/01/2019*

December/January programme (4-weeks)

10/12/2018 – 08/01/2019 *

* **Provisional dates!** Denotes day of departure from and arrival in South Africa.

5. THE COST

Due to the exchange rate, the final cost of the flight ticket will be available closer to the departure dates. The quotes are based on estimates and therefore we distinguish between programme cost (fixed) and flight ticket cost (estimate).

Programme cost: R 5 800.00
(Deposit of R 1 000.00 included)

Flight ticket: R14 800.00
(Estimate, airport tax included)

Included

- Return flights from Johannesburg to Frankfurt;
- Selection and preparation of the South African participants and the organisation of the visit to Germany;
- The selection of host families in Germany and the organising of the programme in Germany.
- Meeting of the groups on arrival and departure in Frankfurt by our German colleagues.

Excluded

- VAT on the South African part of the programme cost (approx. R 812.00);
- The prescribed medical and personal liability insurance,
- **Domestic flights** within South Africa, if you have to fly to Johannesburg;
- **Spending money** (previous year recommendation ranged between Euro 30 – 60 per week);
- Your **train ticket** from Frankfurt airport to/from your host family (previous year the cost of a single train ticket ranged between Euro 45 – 115 with an average of Euro 70);
- **Bus ticket** to/from the school (previous year ranged between Euro 40 – 90 per month);
- Due to the latest European legislation all applicants have to apply in person for a **Schengen (German) visa**. Cost of Schengen visa (approx. Euro 90);
- Any eventual raise in international airfare.

6. DEPOSIT AND CANCELLATION FEES

A **non-refundable** deposit of R 1 000.00 (VAT excl.) must accompany all applications. The deposit is refunded only to **unsuccessful** applicants. A cancellation fee of R3 000.00 for the host family and a cancellation

fee as determined by the airline will be levied for cancellations received after the names of the successful candidates have been announced.

EFT-payments are preferred. Banking details are on the application form. Make all cheques payable to FSA Youth Exchange.

All cash deposits: Please ensure that the required amount appears on the FSA bank statement.

7. FINAL PAYMENT

All outstanding fees must be settled eight weeks before departure. Unfortunately we do not accept any credit cards.

8. CLOSING DATES 2018

Dec 2018/Jan 2019 (6 weeks): 31 Jul 2018

Dec 2018/Jan 2019 (4 weeks): 31 Jul 2018

9. REFERENCES

Our ex-participants and their parents are available for references and other information regarding their experiences with the FSA. Should you wish to contact them, please contact us for this information.

10. CONTACT US

FSA Youth Exchange

Postal address: P O Box 511
Naboomspruit
0560

Physical address: 32 Fourth Street
Naboomspruit
0560

Tel: 014 / 743 1081

Fax: 086 551 4374

Email: admin@fsa-youthexchange.co.za

Website: www.fsa-youthexchange.com



2018 Application Form

Online application available at www.fsa-youthexchange.com

With the application:

- Completed application form.
- 1 colour passport photo.
- Copy of your ID or passport or birth certificate.
- Copy of ID or passport of parents.
- Deposit of R1 000.00 (banking details on next page).

Closing dates:

- December 2018 – January 2019 (6 weeks): 31 July 2018
- December 2018 – January 2018 (4 weeks): 31 July 2018

Do you prefer your correspondence in English or Afrikaans?

For which program are you applying?

December – January (6 weeks)

December – January (4 weeks)

Male / Female:

First name:

Surname:

Full names:

Physical address:

Postal code:

Delivery address (For the delivery of ordered FSA clothing. Unfortunately deliveries are not available for remote locations.)
.....

Tel. (h):/.....

Tel. (w):

Cell number applicant:

Cell number parent:

Email address applicant:

Email address parent:

(It is compulsory for an applicant to have an email address. All our communication is by email!)

Date of birth (yyyy/mm/dd):

Your age while in Germany:

Passport or ID number:

Nationality of passport you will be travelling with:

Occupation father*:

Occupation mother*:

*be specific

How many brothers: How many sisters:

In which grade are you? Do you have German as subject?

If so, since when? 20 Do you smoke (yes, no, occasionally)?

Do you have any prevailing medical condition / depression, **which will influence your stay in Germany?**

If so, give more information. (All information will be treated as confidential.)

Please include **allergies**, for example cats, gluten, etc.

Do you take chronic medication? If so, specify:

Did you receive any psychological counselling during the previous two years?

If so, give more information. (All information will be treated as confidential.)

Give at least four interests/hobbies

(E.g. horse riding, reading, writing, cinema, board games, socialising, fashion, modelling, history, politics, dancing, cooking, baking, photography, nature, outdoor activities, hiking, cycling, music, dancing, etc. **NO WATCHING TV!**):

1. 2.

3. 4.

Musical instruments you are playing:

Can you swim? Can you ride a bicycle?

Name of your school:

Email address of your school:

In which province is your school? Contact teacher at your school

Where will you apply for your visa? (Centurion, C/Town, P/Elizabeth, Durban, Bloemfontein)

I declare that I am familiar with the information in the brochure and all personal information is correct.

.....
Signature applicant

.....
Signature parent / guardian

.....
Date

..... /
Identity no of parent / guardian / Which parent?

We will confirm all applications by email.

If you do not hear from us within 2 weeks after submitting your application, please contact us immediately!

Send your application to:

FSA Youth Exchange

Email: admin@fsa-youthexchange.co.za

P.O. Box 511

Naboomspruit

0560

Enquiries: 014 / 743 1081

Electronic payment:

Bank:

Name:

Account:

Branch:

(Email PoP with application)

First National Bank

FSA Youth Exchange

54 60 11 63 38 7(Cheque account)

26 03 48 (Naboomspruit)



2018 /19 Host Family Information Brochure

Does the idea of having **friends in faraway countries** appeal to you?

Is your family a **typical**, ordinary **South African family**?

Lively, complex, interesting, on the go?

Are you **proud** of our beautiful country?

Are you interested in **sharing your family life** with a young guest
from a strange country for a few weeks?

Think how much **fun** you can have showing a new friend **how we live and love**
in this place we call home...

What a great **opportunity** for a family to have someone
from a different culture share and **live in your home**?

Having your children **experience** this...

Think of lasting **friendships** that can form.

In effect we are building **bridges between strangers**
and between countries that can lead to long lasting friendships.

When do these visits take place? Five groups of German students visit friendly, hospitable South African families every year getting to know **our country, our people**, the different **cultures, languages** and our **way of living** by being **part of an ordinary family**.

Four weeks: **July – August** (3 groups that is July or August or mid Jul to mid Aug).

Six weeks: **July – August**. A few students get permission from their German school to stay for 6 weeks.

Three month school programme: **July – end September** (3rd term)

Four or six weeks: **mid-December – mid / end January**

What about school attendance? Most of the visits take place **during school terms**, except the 4 week December and one of the July groups. The students want to **attend the local school with your child** to **experience** the difference in education systems. During the 4 week programmes the guest only **observes** what happens at school and is not an active participant. During the **3 month programme** the guest will **actively take part in the tuition**, doing homework, writing tests etc. All students are required to adhere to school rules. Three month students buy school uniform (or borrow if possible). FSA Germany pays school and hostel fees for 3 month participants if schools require this.



FSA YOUTH EXCHANGE

FSA YOUTH EXCHANGE

Who are our young visitors? Participants are between **14 and 19** years old. They come from **all over Germany** and the programme is not limited to only one school or city. Participants are **screened** and most of them attend a **preparation** workshop before the exchange visit. They can speak English (the younger ones sometimes less fluent).

Who can host? All interested families are invited to apply to host a student for three months or four weeks regardless of whether they come from a rural or urban environment. Families are screened for suitability.

What is expected of host families? (some requirements)

- The ideal host family must be **hospitable, friendly, warm and open minded** and most of all **tolerant** towards guests who come from a different culture. Is your family **open-minded** and **tolerant**? Easy-going? Even if someone looks **strange or different** to what we are used to, maybe has many ear or nose piercings, boys with longer hair, perhaps even dreadlocks? Different or no religion? Liberal political views? Does different necessarily mean **"wrong"**?
- Are there **teenagers of school-going age** in your family? Obviously also younger and older siblings? Applicants are usually matched with host families whose own children's ages, gender and interests are similar.
- Host families act as informal **"ambassadors" for South Africa**. We have so much to be proud of in our country. Can you identify with this?
- Just think how you can introduce them a typical **"braai"**, pap and sheba, biltong, koeksisters and everything you enjoy eating. The guest has **all his meals with the family**. It is not necessary to cater for different diets or preferences.
- Do you have a **spare guest bed**? An own room is not a condition, only an own bed. The guest is willing to share a room with a child of the same gender.
- Being **able to speak German is not essential**. All communication will be in English. It is important to inform us if your home language is German as this impacts on who is placed with your family.



- Do you live in a **politically stable area**? The host family is **not responsible for any losses or injuries** suffered by the guest during private excursions. We are all aware of the situation in South Africa regarding crime. Participants are informed of the situation in South Africa and that they should adhere to your recommendations regarding safety.
- Are you willing to make a young guest **part of your everyday family life**? It is **not expected** of host families to organise **extensive sightseeing** programmes for guests. Can you show her some of the **places of interest in your area**? It would be a pity if a guest had to fly 10 000 km to only get to know the way to school and back.

What expenses does it entail? Mainly having a young guest **live in your house, meals**, transport to and from the airport and a few outings if possible. Each participant has a return air ticket, own pocket money and comprehensive Medical, Accident and Third party Insurance. FSA Germany pays school fees for long program participants (if required by the school) and students buy their own school uniform. Due to the reciprocal nature of the programme, **families are not remunerated** for hosting an exchange student.

Where will you meet your guest? Where will you fetch him / her? Participants land in **Johannesburg**. If you cannot meet your guest at OR Tambo International Airport, please **indicate** the convenient **domestic airport** on the application form she / he must fly to, **closest to your home** where you can fetch her. Some return flights are very early in the morning – especially from Cape Town, meaning families have to bring them back to the airport in the early morning hours.

You will have continuous support from the FSA during the visit. An **FSA contact person**, Suzanne Baker is available for the duration of the stay should you need to get in touch with us or need any support. After we receive your application form, **information** regarding the visit will be sent to you from the FSA. This will help to make the visit as pleasant as possible for you as well as for your guest.

The same as our German host families, we know you will have as much **fun preparing** for the visit as during the actual visit.

Our ex-host families and previous participants are **our best references**. If you would like to talk to any of them, call us for contact particulars.



Where can host families obtain application forms?

Available on our website <http://www.fsa-youthexchange.com> . You can also apply online. Alternatively, you can request it via email.

You can apply by completing the online (paperless) application on our website. The electronic form is easy and effortless to complete and submit! We are moving away from printed application forms. To save trees we recommend (prefer) the online application. If you do not have access to the online application you can return the application in printed format. Please supply all requested information.

Incoming programme from Germany to South Africa
FSA Youth Exchange (Gauteng Office)
Suzanne Baker
P.O. Box 10618, Fonteinriet, 1464
Tel: 0 1 1 / 9 1 8 - 3 2 8 1
Fax: 086 551 4374
Email: suzanne@fsa-youthexchange.co.za
<http://www.fsa-youthexchange.com>

Where can prospective South African exchange students to Germany obtain application forms? From your school or from our website.

Outgoing programme from South Africa to Germany
FSA Youth Exchange (Limpopo Office)
Alta Botes
P.O. Box 511, Naboomspruit, 0560
Tel : 0 1 4 / 7 4 3 1 0 8 1
Email: admin@fsa-youthexchange.co.za
<http://www.fsa-youthexchange.com>

We invite you to become part of an exceptional group of people who has added immense value to their experiences by participating in this exchange programme.

The FSA Youth Exchange continues to expand and thousands of South African and German families have broadened their horizons by their involvement.

FSA celebrates 22 years' exchange visits in 2018!

Please complete all questions and send it back as soon as possible by email or fax. Should you prefer the easier paperless option, you can also complete the online application on our website.

Family Surname:
Mention children's surname too if children have a different surname

First names (mother & father, also name of stepfather; stepmother or partner of parent in modern families)
.....

Home language of family : Afrikaans / English / German / Zulu / Sotho / other mention

Please mark by circling **ALL** the date groups that suit your family! It makes the allocations easier.

- A. **Four or six week program** July - August 2018 or 2019
(3 different groups depending on school holiday in the German province):
(English as well as Afrikaans schools)
Groups visit 4 or 6 weeks during July or Aug Yes No
- B. **Four week cultural exchange:** 16 Dec 2019 – mid or end Jan 2020 or Dec 2018 already Yes No
Note only a few applicants in Dec program approximately 20 compared to 120 in July / Aug program)
- C. **Three-month-school programme:**
(English as well as Afrikaans schools): 08 July – 1 October 2018 (tentative dates) Yes No

Our own child participated / will participate (mark) JULY 2018 / OCT 2018 / DEC 2018 / 2017

Postal address: **Postal code:**

Street address: **Town** **Postal code:**

Province in SA (Gauteng etc)

International code 0027 takes the place of the first 0 in SA numbers eg 0027 12 555 4354 / 0027 83 343 4567

Tel. (h.): 0027 / **Tel. (w.):** 0027 / mention mom's or dad's no

Cell (mother): 0027 **Cell (father):** 0027

Email (person in family who reads email most often) :

Email of other parent or FSA student

Correct mobile phone numbers and email addresses important for future communication with your family

Will you fetch your guest at the Johannesburg International Airport? Circle Yes / No

If NO, to which domestic airport must he / she fly on arrival in SA?

From which airport will he / she fly back to Johannesburg before departure from SA?

How far away do you live from a major airport (Jhb, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban etc)? km

Occupation Host father

Occupation Host mother

(If occupation is businessman / woman or own business, please mention nature of business eg sport equipment or building industry etc for greater clarity)

Please include **all** children presently living at home: Name 4 – 5 (or more hobbies / interests per child.)
Mention kind of sport (not just sport), watching Television does not make it easy to match someone, tell us if child plays a musical instrument and which instrument, if child rode a horse or did gymnastics 5 years ago, do not give it as a present hobby ☺ Hobbies / interests reflects a picture of the child.

Please underline or circle male / female of each child (not always easy to deduct gender from the names).
If you already host in 2017, give the 2017 ages. Many families host the next year that is 2018 if you participate 2017.

Name child 1 (male / female) **Age** (June 2019):
(the child in the family who was / will be the exchange student to Germany)
Four or more **hobbies** / interests

.....
Name child 2 (male / female) **Age** (June 2019):
Four or more **hobbies** / interests:

.....
Name child 3 (male / female) **Age** (June 2019):
Four or more **hobbies** / interests:

.....
Name child 4 (male / female) **Age** (June 2019):
Four or more **hobbies** / interests:

.....
Please mention **other** extended **family members** living with the family e.g. grandparents

.....
Do you have any **pets**? Kind of pet, how many e.g. dog, snakes?

.....
Your preferences regarding a possible guest: (A definite placement cannot be guaranteed as the applicants are also screened and families and applicants have to be matched).

Circle preferred **gender**: Male / Female Circle preferred **age**: 14 - 16 / 16 - 19 / 14 - 19

If there is no suitable match with your family in 2019, will your family **still be available to host in 2020**? Yes / No

Do you have any **other preferences** or wishes?

Would it be a **problem if the guest is a smoker**?

Is anyone in your family a **smoker**? If yes, who?

Any **other important information** regarding your family (e.g. vegetarian members , if someone in the family speaks German, divorced family, children live with father / mother, family member in wheelchair, diabetic, epileptic, important to mention if you do home-schooling etc)

Your **German student** should have at least one or more of the following **hobbies/ interests** – name at least 4:

Will you visit any **neighbouring countries**, for which he / she may require a visa?

Circle Yes / No If yes, please name the countries:

Particulars of your child's (the FSA participant) present school

Name of the school

Language medium (circle): Afrikaans / English / Dual / Double medium:

IMPORTANT: Will your German guest live in a school hostel with your child? Circle Yes / No

School fees per term (for 3 month participants only)

Hostel fees per month 3 month participants (if applicable)

Town / City of school : School Tel..... /

Contact teacher :

Email of teacher if possible:

Principal: School e-mail:

Please complete this information: We need **contact details of friends / family / neighbours as a reference** and should we have difficulty in contacting you in emergencies: Please inform your friends FSA will contact them as a family reference.

Name and Surname of friends.....

Postal address (friends):

Postal code:

Email of friends:

Only provide their email address if they agree to receive email from FSA in this regard ☺

Cell number (friends):

CAN YOU RECOMMEND FRIENDS WHO WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED RECEIVING OUR BROCHURES?

Name and contact number, email of another possible host family or exchange participant -

Please ask them first if they are interested before giving us their contact information to make sure they agree

Signature / ID of host father in place of signature

Signature / ID of host mother in place of signature

Date

Please fax or email your completed form to:

Fax: 086 551 4374

Email: admin@fsa-youthexchange.co.za

