

After a long and tiring flight, Hayley and I finally got to meet our exchange partners at Heathrow Airport. We knew who they were straight away because Anna and Georgia had made a really cool sign welcoming us. We then drove 2 hours to Birmingham, which was amazingly different from Christchurch. I was surprised at how much brick there was. When we got home, I wanted to get into bed because I had only had 3 hours sleep for the whole trip but, because it was only 4 o'clock, I had to stay up. This turned out to be quite difficult and I nearly fell asleep many times, and ended up having to hold my eyes open



The first week of school was nerve-wracking but really fun. On the first day, Georgia and Anna took us to Matron to get the uniform. After changing into the very different green uniform, we were taken to Upper 4C where we were introduced to everyone. Hayley and I had already been introduced to some girls the day before (Sunday). We had had lunch at Georgia's which gave us a chance to settle in and get to know some people. The first week was really fun and I got to do heaps of things I had never done before, like Latin and Self-Defence. Hayley and I got accepted into the school really quickly, which made everything much easier. When week one ended, I found myself very tired.

On Saturday, Anna, Safia and I went to the Bullring. It was AMAZING! I have never been in a mall that big. I had no idea where to start! When we were all shopped out, we caught the bus home. The next day we went to Cadbury World! It was incredible! We had so much chocolate and I had so much fun! After an exhausting and fun weekend I went to bed ready for week two!

Laura O' Gorman

After waving goodbye to my family with tears in my eyes, Laura and I began our journey that was going to last 30 hours. We weren't too excited about the journey itself, but what was at the other end was unbelievable. After discovering all the movies we could watch, we weren't as worried.



When we arrived at Heathrow, after around two hours of sleep, I was ready to jump in bed and stay there because it was the middle of the night at home, but local time was eleven in the morning. I wasn't too nervous about meeting my host family and was relieved when Georgia came up and gave me a hug. Then it was a 2 hour drive to Birmingham.

After unpacking my suitcase and having a chat with Georgia, I was ready to get into bed. I managed to stay up until 7:30, after nodding off in front of the TV and nearly falling into my dinner. I stayed there for 13 hours.



When we started school I was quite nervous but after encouraging words from Georgia, I was ready. Once I met everyone it was great! I felt like I had been going to KEHS for longer than a day.



There are lots of differences between Rangī and KEHS. I'm starting to be able to find my way around, but I still get a bit lost when I go to the loo.

Repeatedly being asked to say 'pen', 'head' and 'egg' did get a bit annoying but I think everyone is mostly over our accent now.

I'm still adjusting to winter and wasn't happy when I heard it had been 36 degrees at home, but it's not as cold as I thought it would be here.

I'm really enjoying England and thanks to everyone who has made his possible.

Hayley Marriott