

# UK visa changes for Overseas Child Students

05 January 2010

Overseas students under the age of 18 coming to the [UK](#) on exchanges and educational visits will not in many cases need a visa. From the beginning of 2010 overseas students in this situation will be able to visit the [UK](#) for up to six months to most types of schools in both the state and private sector. Unless you are from a visa national Country you will not need to apply for an entry clearance.

There was previously a concession valid until 31 December 2009 that allowed entry under similar circumstances. This concession has now been replaced by the new rules.

The requirements for entry at the [UK](#) border or, if relevant, entry clearance are as follows:

- You are under 18;
- You intend to leave the [UK](#) on completion of the exchange or educational visit, which must not last for more than six months;
- A school as described in paragraph 46A (viii) of the [Immigration](#) Rules has approved the exchange scheme or educational visit - you should produce, for example, a letter from the school or the organisation arranging the exchange;
- Suitable travel, reception and care arrangements are in place for your stay here, and there are sufficient funds for your support;
- The care arrangements that are in place for you comply with relevant [UK](#) care requirements;
- You have a parent or guardian in your home country who is responsible for your care and who confirms that they consent to the visit and to any foster care arrangement - you should provide, for example, a letter from them confirming this; and
- You are not intending to study at an educational institution that holds a [Tier 4](#) sponsor licence or accreditation from an accreditation body approved by the [UK](#) Border Agency, or that is inspected by a public review body.