

Neuqua Explore: Student Behavior Contract & Expectations

Trip: Japan 2026 | **Program Lead:** Mr. Johnthan Walker

Participating in the Neuqua Explore program is a privilege. To ensure a safe, educational, and enjoyable experience for everyone, all participants and their guardians must agree to the following behavioral expectations.

Core Policy: School Handbook

In addition to the specific rules listed below, all participants are required to adhere to the policies, rules, and code of conduct outlined in the Neuqua Valley High School Student Handbook. A violation of the Student Handbook is considered a violation of this travel contract.

Expected Behaviors & Rules

1. **Group Mindset:** Remember at all times that you are part of a GROUP. Decisions and actions should benefit the safety and schedule of the entire team, not just individuals.
2. **Punctuality:** Use common courtesy by being strictly punctual. "On time" means five minutes early. Delays impact the entire itinerary.
3. **Ambassador Role:** Act as an ambassador for our school, our community, and our country. Treat all locals, guides, bus drivers, and hotel staff with the utmost respect.
4. **Engagement:** Maintain a positive, accepting attitude. We expect you to try new experiences, engage with new friends, and taste new foods.
5. **Participation:** Participate fully in all scheduled programs and activities. Opting out of educational visits is not permitted without a medical reason.
6. **Respect Authority:** Follow all directions given by the sponsor/coordinator, designated chaperones, the Tour Director, and local guides immediately and without argument.
7. **Buddy System & Accountability:** Stay with the group or your assigned subgroup at all times. Never wander off alone.
 - **Curfew:** You must adhere strictly to the schedule. Once **bed check** is complete, you must remain in your room until the designated morning time.
8. **Language:** Avoid the use of vulgar, disrespectful, or inappropriate language at all times.
9. **Non-Violence:** There is zero tolerance for the use of physical force or fighting.
10. **Property:** Respect the property of others, including fellow travelers, hotels, buses, and cultural sites. Theft or vandalism will result in immediate disciplinary action.
11. **Safety:** Follow any additional rules established by the sponsor to ensure the safety of all participants (e.g., specific rules for using public transit or crossing streets).
12. **Substance Policy:**
 - **Illegal Drugs & Tobacco/Vaping:** There is **NO** use of illegal drugs, tobacco, or vaping products allowed at any time.
 - **Alcohol:** *[Note: Please verify this against NVHS Handbook]* Alcohol will be allowed in moderation, only with meals, in the presence of a sponsor, IF the student is of legal age in the country (18), AND has prior written parental approval. It is absolutely **NOT** allowed outside of meal times or without supervision.

Consequences of Violation

If the behavior expectations listed above (specifically regarding safety, curfew, drugs/alcohol, and respect) are not met, the participant is subject to disciplinary action by the Sponsor/Coordinator.

Disciplinary Action may include:

- Loss of free time privileges.
- Suspension from specific tour activities.
- **Immediate return home at the parent's expense**, as stated in the EF Release and Agreement.
- School-based consequences upon return (suspension, removal from clubs/sports) per the NVHS Student Handbook.

Agreement

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and agree to support these rules to ensure a safe trip for everyone.

Student Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____