


# **WAATI**

**W.A. Association of Teachers of Italian (Inc.)**

**AFS/ Intercultura Exchange Program.**

 **7 Dux Court, DUNCRAIG WA 6023**

## ABN 22 669 539 309 GST exempt

 **WAATI EXCHANGE in brief**

The **WAATI / AFS INTERCULTURA Student Exchange Program** has been running in WA since 1978.

It is a 2 stage program - **an exchange of cultures between Australia and Italy**.

I, Fulvia Valvasori, have been involved since 1988, marking 33 years in 2020.

**STAGE ONE: HOSTING**

Schools find suitable families who will host an Italian exchange student aged between 15-18, for the period between, the end of June to the end of August (8-9 weeks). Exact dates TBC each year. The Italian student must attend school during this period. Host families are carefully selected by the schools and approved by the exchange coordinator. As per the law of the land, each member of the family over 18 must apply for a WWC (usually paid for by the school)

**STAGE TWO: SENDING**

Schools send suitable students aged between 15-18, to Italy, for a period between the end of November to the end of January. (8-9 weeks. Exact dates TBC each year) A school may send as many students as it hosts in any one year. Special arrangements can be made with the Exchange Coordinator to hold a place for one year but no longer. In almost all cases, a student who hosts will be the student sent, but this is NOT a foregone conclusion. The hosting student must meet the criteria of a suitable sending student.

This does not mean that only students who host can be sent, as it is sometimes the case that (a) the host student may not be considered as a suitable sending student and (b) at times a student who hosts may not be able to or may not be interested in going. In these cases this 'place' can be given to another student in the school.

A student who hosts in one year, can choose not to go in the same year, but can hold the place to the following year. This is sometimes the case if the host is in Year 9 or 10.

The Exchange Coordinator is also prepared to consider sending a student who for a very important reason is unable to host. (E.g. There is member of the family with a disability which can make it too problematic to add another person to the family home) Each case is judged independently. However it is EXPECTED that the majority of students who intend to be sent to Italy will have hosted prior to sending **or** the student, the parents and the school have signed an AGREEMENT TO HOST THE FOLLOWING YEAR form.

For any special consideration, teachers need to contact the exchange Coordinator.

For any further information or explanation please email the exchange Coordinator, Fulvia Valvasori, at: mrfink@iinet.net.au and waati.exchange@gmail.com

**Fulvia Valvasori**

**WAATI Exchange Coordinator**