

November 13, 2007

Dear Family,

When I decided to take part in an au-pair-programme, I was really excited - actually I still am because I don't know what expects me, but I'm looking forward to have a great time with your family!

I'm an 18-year-old German girl who would love to spend a more or less limited time in such a wonderful country as South Africa after my Abitur in July 2008 - then I will be 19 years old.

One of the things I enjoy very much is travelling, I love spending time within another culture, try unknown food and experience new things almost as much as I like flowers, animals, chocolate and ice-cream ☺

Because I don't want to start studying directly after school, I have been planning to move abroad and it would be great to spend a few months or even a year with a nice, uncomplicated family that needs a bit support or is just looking for someone who is able to help the kids with their homework, searching for lost socks and stuffed toys or reading and telling stories to everyone who is interested in that.

In my opinion, it's most important to see the funny and bright side of life. Of course homework, tidying up and all other daily exercises are important, but all these things can be done in an exciting, interesting or even gripping way. And with little breaks outside or a few jokes, almost everything works better!

Being an au-pair is a great wish of mine as I love dealing and joking with children, getting to know new people und cultures, spending time outdoors and just having fun with old and new friends.

For about 6 years I have been organizing and doing service for young kids between 1-10 years in my church, I'm a protestant Christian. Don't worry, I won't try to convince you in any way! But when I started this, I met a lot of different children of all ages, all temperaments and from many different cultures and this helped me to get to know children even better.

In addition to this, I also have been babysitting for a rather long time with kids of all ages. Katharina for example, a 10-year-old girl, I have known since she started going to kindergarten and she still wants me to take care of her and to spend as much time as possible with her - at least once or twice a week. Right now, she's like some kind of little sister for me.

Other kids I love very much are for example 8-year-old Hannah Scharnweber and her sister Ruth, 6 (see the picture!). Not to forget: Lilli and Philipp, the lovely children of my cousin and her husband. You can see both of them at the photo, too.

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At school, I've been senior student for years, helping beginners at our school with their problems and questions. Also I'm working as a trained and qualified mediator between arguing pupils and I have been the voted representative student at my school for 4 years.

Friends and my family describe me as a responsible, creative, caring, kind, open-minded and (more or less) intelligent girl who is a really excellent baker - so you can look forward to get cakes, biscuits, gateaus and muffins at least once a week, if you allow (or even help?) me to mess up your kitchen!

Most of them think it would be perfect for me to work as an Au-Pair in South Africa, although especially my boyfriend Stefan and my Dad are worried and all of them will miss me very much, but I think we will manage this because my whole family such as my brother Steffen (15), my sister Melanie (12), my Mum and even my grandparents and my favourite uncle already planned to visit me - no matter in which town I will end up being!

To be honest, I don't know what more to tell you... I do have a driving licence, I do not smoke or take any drugs and I don't drink alcohol very often.

I'm down-to-earth and love spending time with my family (also with my futural guest-family), my friends animals and at sports (I play volleyball and have been riding the racing bike for years) very much.

At the moment, I'm unfortunately not able to do anything except of hobbling because I have a torn ligament in my right ankle. This is really characteristic of me; I do rather often have a broken arm, an injured leg or scratches and bruises all over my body. As a fact, I cannot explain to you why, I'm neither scatterbrained nor improvident. But I'm doing so many things, I suppose my mum always expects even more little accidents to happen 😊

Finally there's not much more to say, but it would be great to get the chance to tell you anything more you would like to know about me - there are many more pictures to be seen and countless other things to be told - it would be fantastic if you were interested in that!

I hope you are as curious and excited about me as I am about you and I'm looking forward to meeting you in summer!

Best wishes from Germany,  
Nadine 