

Dear Host Family,

I would like to introduce myself to you and let you know a little about me so that you will understand why I would be a good choice to have working on your farm and living with you and your family.

My name is Sara Andersson, I am 18 years old and I live in Sweden, studying agriculture in 'Rattviks', an agricultural college in Dalarna county. Here, I am studying to work with cows, my family has a small herd of around 16 dairy cows at home. When I finish my time studying I hope to take over the animals from my parents and develop a larger farm, one which I can perhaps make a living from.

My mother is Ingrid, she is 46 years old, my father is Markus, he is 50 this year. We plan to have a big celebration for him, it's a surprise! 😊. I have two sisters, both are older than me - 'Linnea' is 25 and she works as a hairdresser in 'Ostersund'. 'Sofie' is 21 years old and has just finished her studies and is spending some months travelling in Australia before starting full time work. I miss her while she is away.

I enjoy meeting with friends in my spare time, going to the cinema, eating in a nice restaurant, or just hanging out and talking. I also like to read fiction books and surf the internet. Although I am not really sporty I do enjoy playing basketball with my friends. I do like to cook sometimes, but I do not think I am very good! I hope you may give me the opportunity to cook a Swedish type of meal for you and your family while I am with you.

I often spend time babysitting for friends of my parents who have young children and when they need me, I go to their house sometimes on a Saturday to play with their children and look after them whilst the parents are busy. The children are Johannes who is a very sweet six year old little boy and Malin, a three year old girl. I enjoy very much to

spend time with them and will often take one or both to a nearby park during the summer.

My reasons for choosing to spend some time in Ireland are quite simple. I love to visit other countries and to meet new people. Coming to live in Ireland with a family is a great way for me to improve my spoken English, meet and live with a family in a different country and learn how other people work on farms. I would really like to be able to get lots of practical experiences on your farm which will be able to help me in my future.

I enjoy working with animals and have a little experience with them and would love the opportunity to get more experience.

I have been studying agriculture for two years now, with lots of practical work involved as well as helping my father at the weekends with the milking and feeding of our cows and the cleaning of the stalls. I hope to be able to put in a new milking system at our home farm in a few years. I am not afraid of hard work and am very much looking forward to getting to know how different it is in Ireland.

I hope you have formed a picture of me and can see me working on your farm and getting on very well with you and your family for 4 months.

I look forward to meeting you,

*Sara Andersson*