

Greetings from Sydney!

We'd like to introduce our family to you: My name is Kate and my husband's name is Paul. We have two children, Jules (7) and Tom" (10), a cat (Puss) two miniature collies (Scout and Mia) and some goldfish (yet to be named!).

So let us introduce our family...Tom is soccer mad (you will probably know it as football) – he is just about to start the new soccer season and is really looking forward to it. Tom also likes skateboarding and rollerblading (he just got a pair of roller blades for his birthday) and of course video games (FIFA).

Jules played her first season of soccer last year but loves reading, doing craft, drawing and playing with her toys. She adores cooking and she would be very happy to make cakes with you – and eat them!

Both children love music - Tom plays clarinet and Jules plays violin. We often have music playing in our house so we hope you love listening to music as much as we do.

Last year we got our two dogs. They are brother and sister and are very cute although sometimes get up to mischief. They sometimes come to my work but mostly at home during the day. Our pets are very much part of our family (they are allowed in the house and on our sofa) so we are looking for an au pair who loves animals as much as we do.

We live in a suburb of Sydney called Bexley which is about 20 minutes to the city and about 10 minutes' drive to the nearest beach. Our home is has three bedrooms and a garden studio which we have set up for you. It is an older home and at times can get messy (with two working parents, kids and animals!) but is comfortable and we hope you will like it.

We live 5-10 minutes' walk from the train station, shops and the local school, and we are a short walk to the gym. We would pay for your gym membership if you would like to use the gym.

Our children go to the local school which is 10 minutes' walk from our home. We are looking for an Au Pair to assist with the care of our children around 25 hours per week and do some light housework such as tidying up the children's rooms and the morning washing up. Most weekdays would consist of walking Jules and Tom to school in the morning, walking them home from school in the afternoon, taking them to soccer training, helping them complete their homework and music and then playing with them until we arrive home. You do not need to be a gourmet cook however we'd love it if you could help prepare pasta or other simple dishes 2 nights a week. We would like you to be able to drive although you will only need to drive once a week - more frequently during the holidays. We'd also ask that you can care for our children once a month in the evening when my husband and I are out.

During school holidays you would need to care for the children up to 40 hours per week however we would make sure there is a fun activity schedule and some relaxing time. Normally during holidays they have some friends over for play dates and head to friends hours so sometimes you might have more children but other times, you'd be free except to pick up.

Being so close to the beach, we like to go swimming during summer, head to the park or spend time outdoors. We walk our dogs daily and both my husband and I try to get to the gym 1-2 times a week. Paul is French so we often eat French food although we also cook a lot of Thai and Italian food. We try to eat well although we are more relaxed on the weekend. We have no food restrictions.

We hope that you will be enthusiastic, responsible and treat our children and our home with love and respect. We are a happy, fun household and we will do our best to make you feel welcome and share our home and our Australian life with you.

We look forward to meeting you!

From Kate, Paul, Tom and Jules

Schedule

Our scheduled will sometimes change with school holidays, the occasional late night or work commitments however our proposed schedule is 30-35 hours per week:

Monday duties/hours required: total 6 hours

7.00 – 09.30 (2.5 hours) Help the children get ready for school - they need to be at school at 8am for cello and violin. Wash breakfast dishes. Tidy children's rooms.

2.30 – 6.30 (4 hours) Pick the children up from school Return home and help the children finish their homework. Jules will have her violin teacher come to the house for a lesson at 5.30 for half an hour. Help the children take the clothes off the line and feed the dogs and cat.

Tuesday duties/hours required: total 6 hours

7.30 – 09.30 (2 hours) Help the children get ready for school and walk them to the school before the start time (9am). Wash breakfast dishes. Tidy children's rooms.

2.30 – 6.30 (4 hours) Pick the children up from school at 3pm and walk home. Help children with homework. Help the children take the clothes off the line and feed the dogs and cat. Play and care until we get home around 6-6.30.

Wednesday duties/hours required: total 6 hours 7.30 – 09.30 (2 hours) Help the children get ready for school and walk them to the school before the start time (9am). Wash breakfast dishes. Tidy children's rooms.

2.30 – 6.30 (4 hours) Pick the children up from school at 3pm and walk home. Help children with homework. Help the children take the clothes off the line and feed the dogs and cat. Play and care until we get home around 6-6.30. NOTE: From March both children will have soccer training in the afternoon.

Thursday duties/hours required: total 6 hours

7.30 – 09.30 (2 hours) Help the children get ready for school. Ren needs to be at school at 8am for violin. Tom needs to be at school at 9am. Wash breakfast dishes. Tidy children's rooms.

2.30 – 6.30 (4 hours) Pick the children up from school at 3pm and walk home. Tom will have clarinet at 4.30pm so you will need to walk him to the lesson at that time. Help children with homework. Help the children take the clothes off the line and feed the dogs and cat. Play and care until we get home around 6-6.30.

Friday duties/hours required: total 6 hours 7.30 – 09.30 (2 hours) Help the children get ready for school and walk them to the school before the start time (9am). Wash breakfast dishes. Tidy children's rooms.

2.30 – 6.30 (4 hours) Pick the children up from school at 3pm and walk home. Help the children take the clothes off the line and feed the dogs and cat. Play and care until we get home around 6-6.30.
Other:

Other

We would love you to walk the dogs to school with you each day. We will also walk them however they would love the exercise and companionship!

School holidays: Over the school holiday period we would need you to care for the children 4 days a week full time (Tues – Fri from 8.30 – 5.00/ 5.30 around 35 hours). We want them to keep active so we'd give you lots of ideas to keep you busy and having fun.

On December 26 (Boxing Day) we will be going away. Over this period we would like to ask you to care for the dogs and the cat, and water our garden while we are away. You will have no other duties and will be paid on the basis of 30 hours per week.

Weekends: Occasional evening care (once around every 3-4 weeks)