

Ukrainian Refugee Resettlement Schemes Update – 10 May 2022

The number of Ukrainian arrivals applying for school places in Shropshire schools is steadily increasing. The latest position as at the end of last week is summarised below.

Position as at Friday 6 May 2022

| Offered School Places | | | Applications going through Fair Access | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|--|--|----------|-----------|
| Year Group | No. | Locations | Year Group | No. | Locations |
| Pre-school | 3 | Morda and Oswestry (x2) | | | |
| Reception | 2 | Newtown and Upton Magna | | | |
| Year 2 | 1 | Ludlow | | | |
| Year 3 | 2 | Ludlow and Oswestry | | | |
| Year 4 | 5 | Albrighton, Hodnet, Longden, Oswestry and Shrewsbury | | | |
| Year 5 | 1 | Bishop's Castle | | | |
| Year 6 | 1 | Prees | | | |
| Year 7 | 2 | Shrewsbury (x2) | | | |
| Year 8 | 5 | Oswestry, Pontesbury and Shrewsbury (x3) | | | |
| Year 9 | 1 | Shrewsbury | | | |
| Year 10 | 4 | Shrewsbury (x4) | | | |
| Total | 27 | | | 0 | |

| | |
|------------|----|
| Pre-school | 3 |
| Primary | 12 |
| Secondary | 12 |

Thank you to schools for sending through information on in-year applications they have received from Ukrainian refugee families to the local authority email address - Children&youngpeople@shropshire.gov.uk . Whether supported by an offer or refused, this information is important, with refusals being directed towards a fair access panel. A panel met last Friday to consider an application.

The Government has requested local authorities submit the numbers on applications received and places offered. The information summarised above was sent through on Friday. In an all-LA call last Tuesday, a Department for Education official advised that funding support for school placements will be confirmed and distributed later this term.

A [letter from the Secretary of State for Education](#) was published week. It references the [Oak National Academy](#) online lessons, advising that an auto-translate function across all 10,000 of these lessons has been rolled out. The letter also advises that the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science has published the [Ukrainian curriculum](#), through which Ukrainian educational materials can be shared with incoming families and pupils.

Following a brief discussion with senior leaders at the LA Maintained Headteacher Forum last Thursday, the following developments are being proposed, which were supported by the headteacher group:

Grant for uniforms/education resources

Funding from the Household Support Fund has been earmarked to provide a one-off grant of £50 per Ukrainian refugee securing a school place, to support with the costs of uniforms and education resources. This funding will be paid to the schools in which the pupils secure places.

Free school meals

The local authority is seeking clarification from the Department of Education on the provision of free school meals (FSMs) for Ukrainian refugees once they start in school, but has yet to receive any clear guidance. Given that the families are likely to have arrived without independent means of supporting themselves financially, they are being strongly advised to apply for Universal Credit as soon as they arrive. Once this is confirmed they will be able to formally apply for FSMs. However, the confirmation of the benefit entitlement is not likely to come through ahead of children taking up their school place.

Schools are therefore being asked to provide the Ukrainian children with FSMs from day 1 of their arrival in school, in the expectation that their entitlement to Universal Credit and subsequent confirmed eligibility for FSMs, following receipt of the application, will follow in due course. If the local authority is advised that a family is not entitled to FSMs, the school will be notified immediately at which point the provision of FSMs can cease.

Schools are not being mandated to do this but will hopefully support this approach given the exceptional circumstances in which these families are arriving in our county. This proposal was discussed at the LA Maintained Headteacher Forum last Thursday, who gave it their full support.

DBS checks

In order to increase the capacity for dealing with the enhanced DBS checks required for adults in households hosting Ukrainian families, we are inviting schools to put themselves forward to undertake ID checks for hosts in their local area, using staff in their schools who are already trained to verify individual's identification documents for DBS purposes. The hope is that hosts can get these checks done more quickly and effectively in their own communities.

These checks must be kept completely separate from a school's own DBS checking process and the adults checked should not be added to the school's single central register. It is envisaged that a slightly different access permission and account would be created for each user, to ensure that there is no disruption to school DBS checks, or risks in relation to confidentiality of information held across both datasets.

If you are interested in putting your school forward, can you please email **Maria Evans**, maria.evans@shropshire.gov.uk and identify the appropriate DBS users. If there is high demand for your support with ID verification and it adversely affects school workloads, please let Maria know so that she can either provide you with additional DBS support from within her team, or to review monthly payroll deadlines with you.

The list of schools offering to provide this support service will be listed and signposted to host families on the Shropshire Council website, on the [Homes for Ukraine](#) webpages.

Links to guidance, FAQs and key communications relating to school admissions for Ukrainian arrivals

[School admissions: applications for overseas children](#)

How local authorities and admission authorities should process applications from foreign nationals, or from another country, for a state-funded school place in England.

[Updated 20 November 2020 – Department for Education – further update anticipated]

[School Admissions Code](#)

Mandatory requirements and statutory guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools adjudicators and admission appeals panels

[September 2021 – Department for Education]

[Welcome: a guide for Ukrainians arriving in the UK](#)

This is a guide for Ukrainians arriving in the UK. It also includes specific information for those arriving on the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

[Published 29 March 2022 – Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities]

[Homes for Ukraine: guidance for councils](#)

This initial guidance on the Homes for Ukraine scheme outlines the role of councils across England in supporting the scheme.

[Updated 30 March 2022 – Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities]

[Homes for Ukraine scheme: frequently asked questions](#)

Questions and answers on how the Homes for Ukraine scheme will work.

[Updated 13 April 2022 – Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities]

[Secretary of State for Education letter to LA Chief Executives & Directors of Children's Services](#)

Secretary of State for Education letter to local authorities on the right of children arriving from Ukraine to access education and childcare while in the UK.

[1 April 2022 – Department for Education]

[School applications for foreign national children and children resident outside England](#)

Advice for state-funded school admission authorities, independent schools, local authorities and parents

[Updated 12 April 2022 – Department for Education]

[How do families arriving from Ukraine apply for a school place and childcare?](#)

Blog article on The Education Hub on the Department for Education website, offering advice to Ukrainian families, available in both English and Ukrainian, to be shared with staff and parents.

[13 April 2022 – Department for Education]

[Secretary of State for Education letter](#) **NEW**

Secretary of State for Education letter highlighting teaching and learning support to newly arrived refugees including reference to the Oak National Academy online lessons.

[4 May 2022 – Department for Education]

Resources

[Migrants and Refugees in Education: A toolkit for teachers](#)

Learn how to teach and support young people across the globe affected by violence, conflict, or displacement.

[Psychological First Aid: Supporting Children and Young People](#)

Get Psychological First Aid training to support children and young people's mental health during emergencies and crisis situations.

[Supporting the mental health and wellbeing of displaced Ukrainians](#)

A link to guidance training and further resources provided through ThriveLDN, designed to help those supporting people affected by the Ukraine crisis.

[Helping Ukrainian children settle into school](#)

City of Sanctuary UK has pulled together some initial thoughts on how schools can prepare for new Ukrainian arrivals.

[Supporting Ukrainian Refugees](#)

Resource bank developed by York Educational Psychology Service including e-module, booklist for dual language Ukrainian-English books and a series of leaflets that can be shared with young people and adults.

[Supporting Children, Young People, Schools & Practitioners with War and Conflict](#)

Somerset County Council have devised some resources to support children and young people affected by the war in Ukraine.

[Ukrainian curriculum](#) **NEW**

The Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) has published the Ukrainian curriculum. Schools may wish to share these educational materials with incoming Ukrainian pupils and families.