

Miss Sylvia Thomas – Principal of Banbury Aspirations Campus

07 March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Supporting those caught up in the conflict in Ukraine

We are going to join the growing band of schools who are involved in the humanitarian effort to support the citizens of Ukraine. We are looking to collect items to send to the country via a response co-ordinated from Brize Norton. The turnaround time on this is very short and all items would need to be in school by the end of the day on Thursday 10th March.

We welcome donations of the prioritised items, which will be delivered to those caught up in the conflict:

Non-perishable food items Clothes (women's, men's, children's - particularly warm clothing) Blankets Bedding Toiletries Wet wipes Hygiene products Nappies Baby food (non-perishable) Bandages and plasters Hand sanitizer Face masks Shoes

If you have anything you could donate, please bring to reception and we will put all items together for handing over to those who are going to take the goods to the country.

I also wanted to note that I made an error in my letter last week by referring to the country as the Ukraine. I wanted to take this opportunity to apologise to anyone who was upset or offended at the use of the word "the".

Trips out of school

It has been lovely to see minibuses and coaches leaving the school site over the last week, taking students from multiple year groups out to a variety of locations. It has helped to really support the growing sense of normality returning to the campus. This week coming, we have a Year 11 geography trip to Kew Gardens in London and the Year 7 and 8 students from Futures are having a day out in Stratford-upon- Avon.







Futures Institute Banbury

Banbury Aspirations Campus Sixth Form

Punctuality and attendance of students at school

Whilst we are still expected to ask students and staff who test positive for Covid to stay home and self-isolate for the appropriate length of time, we are now looking at supporting all students to maintain or improve their punctuality and attendance at school over the next few weeks and months.

Whilst our whole school attendance levels remain at or above the national figure on a daily basis, we know that, for a variety of reasons, the more students are in school with us the better it is for them. We will be contacting families where children have fallen below 90% and inviting them to join us for supportive Parent Contract meetings to discuss how we can work together to ensure better attendance and/or punctuality at school. We know that all parents appreciate the importance of children being in school and being in positive routines.

Dropping children off/picking children up

Our staff who are out on duty at the gate at the beginning and end of the school day have been reporting to me that they are concerned about the volume of traffic on Ruskin Road and Wykham Place as our children are arriving at/leaving the campus. We understand that, particularly when it is raining, you want to drop off/pick your children up as close to school as possible. However, we want to keep our student body as safe as possible when arriving and departing from school. We also want to ensure that our neighbours who live in surrounding streets are not inconvenienced in any way. Please think about whether you are able to park further away if possible. We also ask that parents only come on site to drop off/pick up their children if they have a disability/injury which means that they are unable to walk onto the campus. We have over 1200 people accessing our campus now as well as those whose children go to the onsite nursery. We are managing the exit from school more effectively by ensuring that students being taught in the science block leave from the side gate but any extra support you can give us to keep our children safe is warmly welcomed.

Yours sincerely

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Sylvia Thomas Principal of Banbury Aspirations Campus