



**DOWNSEND  
SCHOOL**

*Inspiring Young Minds*



## **Downsend supports the people of Ukraine**

It has been heart-breaking to see the devastating images coming out of Ukraine. It is difficult to conceive that such events can be taking place in 2022 and our thoughts are with our Ukrainian families and their wider population as well as our Russian families who share our horror in the atrocities that are being carried out under their flag.

As a community, we want to help however we can, which is why we have put together this plan to support government-backed initiatives as well as volunteers from our local community to help provide food, water, shelter, supplies and medical assistance where it is most needed.

War has no place in any country, so we stand in solidarity with anyone living through conflict.

It can be overwhelming and confusing to know how best to support the people of Ukraine as the situation continues to develop. With that in mind, we have compiled this list of ways you, and we as a community, can provide the best support to those who have been affected, or displaced.



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## Direct donations to Internationally recognised charities

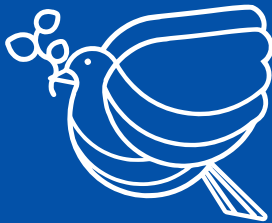
Many charities have mobilised to provide assistance where it is needed most. Our recommended list (with hyperlinks) is as follows:

[The Disasters Emergency Committee](#)

[UNICEF Emergency Appeal](#)

[Red Cross Crisis Appeal](#)

[Save the Children](#)



- £30 could provide essential hygiene supplies for three people for one month
- £50 could provide blankets for four families
- £100 could provide emergency food for two families for one month

## Fundraising Initiatives as a School

### Friday 18 March - Wear Yellow and Blue Day at the Main School

Pupils are encouraged to wear yellow and blue, accessories or clothing, to show their support.

£1 donation to be given to teaching staff or made online to the Rotary Club of Ashtead.

Donate here: [The Rotary Club of Ashtead](#)

We will be continuing to look at possible fundraising opportunities, if you have any ideas, please let us or the DPA know.

Please note Little Downsend will continue to raise money for Comic Relief on 18 March so no change to original timetabled plans.





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## Collection of physical items

We are lucky to have parents and staff within our community who are able to mobilise quickly to make physical deliveries to neighbouring countries. Fenton Frost have already made one collection, and this arrangement will now be formalised to include each Little Downsend and the Main School.

### Next collection date: Tuesday 15 March

Pick up time: 12 noon

Drop off locations:

- Little Downsend Ashted: School Hall
- Little Downsend Leatherhead: Front door
- Little Downsend Epsom: Front door
- Main School: Turret Entrance (we will confirm by message exactly how and when to drop your items off on Tuesday 15th. We will aim to do this during morning drop-off and will finalise details asap).

Items required:

- Torches and batteries
- Power banks
- First Aid Kits; antiseptic cream, plasters, bandages
- Candles and matches
- Long life food in cans or energy bars
- Sanitary products
- Sleeping bags and thermal blankets
- Baby food and formula milk
- Clothes and nappies are not required.

Ideally these items would be packed into boxes and labelled with quantities of what they contain.

### Providing emotional support to the children of Ukraine

Fenton Frost have also volunteered to deliver messages of drawings of support to children displaced by the conflict. Small messages of support and drawings to inspire hope would be welcomed and can be collected as part of the Fenton Frost pick up.



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## Supporting our pupils to manage their emotions during the conflict

We know that this can be a troubling time for children as they seek to understand what is happening. We are discussing this with them, in different ways depending upon the age of child, but we felt it was important to include some links to resources that may help you have these conversations at home.

The following clip from Friday's Newsround explains the current situation in a factual and calm manner and might be something you chose to watch with your children: [Newsround](#)

If you would like your children to understand the distinction between Russia, the millions of Russian people, and Vladimir Putin, the following link is also useful: [Newsround](#)

This link to the [Newsround website](#) discusses what children should do if they are worried about the news - you may wish to share this with your children too if they are finding the conflict concerning.

This recent article in the Guardian provides some useful advice to parents about how to have conversations about the conflict. [The Guardian](#).

This article in The Conversation provides age-appropriate advice. [The Conversation](#).

