

Homes for Ukraine Update 12 – Tuesday 5 October

Welcome to our latest update for hosts taking part in the Homes for Ukraine scheme in Norfolk.

This week we have information about more training and support offered to hosts, as well as updates for guests on ESOL courses, a new Facebook Group for Ukrainians and volunteering.

Hosts networking and training sessions

There are still some places available on this month's free face-to-face host sessions in Dereham, Aylsham and Diss.

As well as taking a look at trauma and resilience, the October sessions will cover cultural events such as Halloween, Guy Fawkes night, as well as how we celebrate Christmas and Easter in the UK and how this differs to celebrations in Ukraine.

All hosts and prospective hosts of the Homes for Ukraine Scheme in Norfolk are welcome to come along to share experiences, access training and get information, advice, and support.

Just click on the session you would like to attend to fill in our online booking form.

- **Dereham** – [Thursday 13 October, 10.30am – 12.30pm at Dereham Ukraine Aid Centre at Wrights Walk, Dereham, NR19 1TR](#)
- **Diss** – [Friday 14 October, 10am-12 noon at The Corn Hall St Nicholas Street Diss, Norfolk IP22 4LB](#)
- **Aylsham** – [Tuesday 18 October, 1-3pm at Aylsham Town Hall, Market Place, Aylsham, NR11 6EL](#)

If you need help with making an online booking, please call Norfolk Libraries on 01603 774774 and choose the option to book an event, or pop into your local library.

Facebook Group for Ukrainians in Norfolk

Norfolk Community Foundation has launched a Facebook group, which is being updated and moderated with the help of Ukrainian refugees. Here, Ukrainians will be able to access support and advice in their own language on a range of topics including finding and accessing health, transport and community services, as well as tips on finding Ukrainian food and products and understanding cultural difference. Do [visit the Facebook Group](#) and share it with your guests.

Cost of living support

Some hosts have been in touch to ask us whether we are considering increasing the host payments this winter to help with increased energy bills and other living costs. As this is an issue affecting the whole country, we are currently waiting for the Government to decide about any extra funding which can be consistently applied to hosts in all areas. This would include clarification on the tax issues of any additional payments, as current payments are exempt from tax.

In the meantime, if you find you are struggling financially with living costs then get in touch with your [district council help hub](#) or contact the [Homes for Ukraine team](#). Staff can then check that you are receiving all the financial support that you are entitled to. Emergency financial help for those in hardship who cannot pay their living costs is available from the [Norfolk Assistance Scheme](#). You can also check our website for information about other [cost of living support](#).

Supporting language learning in the home

EnglishPlus are holding a free online session for hosts, offering tools, tips, and thoughts for supporting your guests with learning English at home.

This is a great opportunity to ask questions, share your experiences, and get advice from language learning experts.

The session is being held on Monday 17 October 17 from 5.30– 6.15pm

To register [book your place on Eventbrite](#) or [go to Eventbrite](#) and search for englishplus with location ONLINE.

Update on ESOL courses

Norwich City College

Part time ESOL for adults aged 19 and over at City College Norwich is now oversubscribed.

If people apply now, they will be placed on a waiting list. If the college can run another set of classes later this term or in January, they will contact those on the waiting list.

For Ukrainian guests in the Norwich area wishing to start a course right now, there is a [list of other providers on our website](#).

Applications for entry in Sept 2023 open on the 1 October 2022 and the college is encouraging early applications.

City College Norwich do have spaces on their full time ESOL for under-19s course. They enrol every week at 9 am on Tuesdays throughout the year. Potential students, families or hosts can email international@ccn.ac.uk for more information.

NILE

As part of the NILE TEFL training programme (CELTA), NILE offers free English classes for adults, taught by trainee teachers, and supervised by experienced teacher trainers.

Dates for 2022 are 2 – 28 October, and 7 November - 2 December, every weekday 2.25 to 4.45pm.

Your guests can pop into the office on 78-80 Upper St Giles Street, NR2 1LT or contact NILE on erin@nile-elt.com, 01603 664473 to arrange a short placement test and to sign up.

Volunteering Fair at The Forum, Norwich

Your guests are invited to come to a Volunteer Fair on 12 October from 9am to 4pm. Arranged by an organisation called [Mangoma](#), the fair will be a great opportunity to meet local groups and communities looking for volunteers, find out what they need help with, and get connected into the local community. Volunteering can also boost employment prospects.

For more information

More [information about the Homes for Ukraine scheme is available on our website](#) where you will find lots of additional information including a [toolkit for hosts](#) that you can download, sources of local support and all [previous updates](#).

However, if you can't find an answer to your question, please email us at ncchomesforukraine@norfolk.gov.uk

Thanks again for your generous support of the Homes for Ukraine scheme.