

Homes for Ukraine Update 5 – Thursday 16 June

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

This week's update has an update on payments to hosts, news about some new Community Help events planned and a reminder of existing sessions. There is also information about transitioning to schools, a careers fair for refugees and the heads-up on some forthcoming events.

Payments to hosts

Norfolk County Council manages these optional thank you payments, apart from for people living in South Norfolk and Breckland which are managed by the relevant district councils.

We are aware that some hosts are still waiting to receive their £350 a month 'thank you payments from Norfolk County Council, despite their guests arriving more than a month ago.

Norfolk welcomed a significant number of guests in a short space of time which has resulted in some minor delays in processing payments. We know this payment is very helpful for hosts to cover the increased costs associated with having extra people in your household, especially with the current cost of living increases we are all seeing, so we have worked hard to clear the backlog and will be sending out the majority of backdated payments this Friday 17 June 2022.

Payments are made a month in arrears, so hosts can normally expect to receive their first payment one month after their guests arrive. If there has been a delay in setting your payment up, your first payment will include any backdated money owed to you. Payments will then be made on the 23rd of each month.

If you live in South Norfolk or Breckland your local council will be in contact to arrange your payments. If you live elsewhere and have yet to claim your payments, please complete the BACS form on our website as soon as you can after your guests arrive. We will also email you a link to this on the day after our welfare visit. We can only set up payment for the lead sponsor, so the account details you provide need to be in the lead sponsor's name. Please note if your guests leave your home you will not be eligible for further payments.

New Community Help events starting in Thetford

We are going to be starting a new welcome session at Thetford Library. It will be every Wednesday 2.30 – 6pm from 22 June. We will also soon be starting sessions in Aylsham.

These sessions are a great way for both you and your guests to access the support and services that you need, as well as starting to navigate the local community.

Other sessions are held at Cromer Dereham, Diss, Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn, Norwich, and Wymondham. Find out more information about dates and times [on our website](#).

Careers fair at The Forum, Norwich - 10am-2pm, Thursday 30 June 2022

A refugee support fair is being held at The Forum in Norwich – this is the space outside the Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library. It's an opportunity for your guests to meet local employers, discuss help with employment or find out how to set up their own business or become self-employed. Information will also be on hand about the learning and training opportunities available. The fair is being organised by the [wellbeing and work for refugee integration project](#).

Transferring to junior or secondary school

Children currently in Nursery, Year 2 (if attending an Infant school) and Year 6 will need to transition to their next school in September. This transfer doesn't happen automatically and so parents will need to apply for admission to the next school as soon as possible. More information and the form are on our [school admissions pages](#). If any further advice is needed you can email admissions@norfolk.gov.uk or call 0344 800 8020. Parents can also get any help with filling in forms at the [Community Help sessions](#).

Refugee week, 20-26 June 2022

Refugee Week is a UK-wide festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. The vision is for refugees and asylum seekers to be able to live safely within inclusive and resilient communities, where they can continue to make a valuable contribution.

Check out the [New Routes website](#) for local events The [national website](#) also has simple ways you can take part.

Ukrainian family fun day at Norwich School

The Norwich School is holding a FREE family fun day to welcome Ukrainians and their host families to Norfolk on Saturday 9 July from noon to 3pm.

Craft, sporting activities, BBQ and soft drinks provided. You are welcome to bring a cake or other sweet treats to share, and are just asked to make sure they are nut free and that you include a list of ingredients.

The event is taking place in the [Lower School Playing Field](#) – parking is available nearby at Rose Lane, St Andrew’s or the Adam and Eve car parks. There is a limited amount of parking available for disabled guests, which can be booked by emailing bookings@norwich-school.org.uk.

Please sign up [here](#) so the School can plan for numbers.

For more information

More information about the Homes for Ukraine scheme is available [on our website](#) 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.