

Prime Minister  
Prime Minister's Office  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW1

Sent via email and hard copy by post.

### **UK Support for Students and Staff from the British International School Ukraine**

3 March 2022

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to you in connection to the British International School Ukraine, which is a proud COBIS Member School. The students, staff and all respective families are much loved and respected members of the diverse and vibrant family of COBIS schools worldwide.

COBIS has significant concern for the 700 children enrolled in the school, and for the staff, not just the UK nationals who have a safe haven, but the many Ukrainian staff of this British School who may now need asylum and a place of safety - in the obvious 'home' for them, the UK.

**Therefore, in relation to the British Government's humanitarian pathway please can you give assurance that no barrier will be put in their way to enter the UK.**

My formal request for assurance complements a similar question raised by Plaid Cymru representative Rt. Hon. Liz Saville-Roberts MP at yesterday's Prime Minister's Questions.

I remain in regular contact with Mr David Cole, the Principal of British International School Ukraine, who alongside his team continues to do a truly remarkable job, leading his team in their commitment to provide emotional, pastoral and learning support and as best they can. Clearly, this is in the face of enormously distressing and challenging operating conditions.

Regionally and globally COBIS member schools, particularly across the Black Sea region, are actively supporting children, young people and families who have been forced to flee Ukraine. This includes but is not limited to opening their physical and virtual doors to provide sanctuary, access to school counsellors, teachers, support staff and by coordinating and delivering much needed humanitarian aid.

I look forward to receiving your response at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,



Colin Bell  
COBIS CEO

Letter copied to:

- Priti Patel, Home Secretary - [public.enquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:public.enquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk)
- Lord Jim Knight, COBIS Honorary President – [knightja@parliament.uk](mailto:knightja@parliament.uk)
- Graham Stuart MP, COBIS Honorary Vice-President - [grahamstuartmp@parliament.uk](mailto:grahamstuartmp@parliament.uk)
- Rt. Hon. Liz Saville-Roberts MP - [liz.savilleroberts.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:liz.savilleroberts.mp@parliament.uk)

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