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House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1

3 March 2022

UK Government Support for Students and Staff at the British International School in Ukraine

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to you following my question to you at Prime Minister's Questions this week in relation to staff and students at the British International School Ukraine.

I share concerns raised by Council of British International Schools (COBIS), of which the school is an accredited member, for the 700 children enrolled in the school, and for the staff. While most UK nationals employed by the school now have been successfully evacuated, we remain very concerned for the Ukrainian staff of this British School who may now need asylum and a place of safety.

In relation to the British Government's humanitarian pathway, I urge you to provide the school with assurances that all its students and staff will be welcome to the UK should they wish to seek refuge here. I also urge you, once more, to follow other European nations' example by waiving visa requirements for all those fleeing the war in Ukraine.

Given the desperate situation facing people in Ukraine, we should be putting people's safety first and dealing with the paperwork later.

I remain in regular contact with Mr David Cole, the Principal of British International School Ukraine, as well as my constituent Gethin Jones, who works for an educational consultancy which works with the school, both of whom have worked tirelessly to ensure the safety of colleagues and students.

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

Yours sincerely,

Liz Saville Roberts MP
Plaid Cymru Westminster leader

Letter copied to:

- Priti Patel, Home Secretary – public.enquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk
- Colin Bell, COBIS CEO – ceo@cobis.org.uk
- Lord Jim Knight, COBIS Honorary President – knightja@parliament.uk
- Graham Stuart MP, COBIS Honorary Vice-President - graham.stuart.mp@parliament.uk