

WYCHAVON

Homes for Ukraine



October Host Bulletin

Welcome to our October Host Bulletin for Wychavon. These bulletins will be released on a monthly basis and will hopefully give you additional information to support you as a host.

If you have not already, please make the most of your free membership to Hold for Hosts, a service designed to support you to succeed in your important role as a Host. This will provide you with access to a fantastic bank of resources and wide range of services including advice lines, podcasts, discounts, health and well-being app and much more. It will also enable you link up with other hosts across the UK. Please contact homesforukraine@wychavon.gov.uk and we can send you more information about logging in.

Careers and employability event

As you saw in our last host bulletin, we are working very hard to organise a careers and employability event specifically for our Ukrainian guests. Many different local and national organisations will attend to advise and assist on a variety of different topics, such as: further education and training, CV and interview advice, using Ukrainian qualifications in the UK, self-employment, volunteering opportunities and much more! We will be joined by Seetecpluss, Heart of Worcestershire college, NHS representatives, UKCQP, Worcestershire Growth Hub, to name a few. Interpreters will be available during the event. If you are accompanying or assisting with transport to the event, we recommend parking in either: Merstow Green - Short Stay Car Park or Bewdley Street - Long Stay Car Park, both near Waitrose in Evesham.



Tuesday 07/11/23 | 17:30-19:30 | Evesham Town Hall

Half Term activities

With half term around the corner, there are lots of exciting events happening across Worcestershire. We wanted to share with you some of our top choices and also some other ideas of crafts and things to do with youngsters during the school holidays.



The museum in Worcester is just along from the train station and a short walk from the bus station. There are always different exhibitions and free activities to take part in. You could make it more of a day out and visit the cathedral or the museum of Royal Worcester. Here are some more ideas: [October half-term holiday in Worcester \(museumsworcestershire.org.uk\)](https://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk) | [Free/Budget Days Out in Worcestershire](#) | [Visit Worcestershire](#)

Some children may be interested in decorating for dressing up for Halloween. There are activities across the county taking place which you may want to take part in: [5 Halloween activities in Worcestershire to do...](#) | [Visit Worcestershire](#)



If Halloween isn't your thing, perhaps you could visit one of the many pumpkin farms in Worcestershire and spend an afternoon picking out your favourite to bring home and paint or use in a tasty recipe: [Pumpkin picking in Worcestershire](#) | [Visit Worcestershire](#)

During the school break, you might also be looking for some things to do at home with children and young people. Hobbycraft have lots of half-term deals on craft supplies and kits for children and adults. They also post ideas of easy, quick-win activities which can be made from regular household items: [Craft Ideas For Kids | Hobbycraft](#) | [Offers | Hobbycraft](#)



How to Make Halloween Milk Bottle Lanterns



BBC Good Food also offer lots of recipe ideas, from easy ideas for children, such as simple biscuits to decorate, all the way to stuffed pumpkin and pumpkin pie: [Autumn baking projects for kids | BBC Good Food](#) | [10 half-term recipes for kids | BBC Good Food](#)

We hope you have fun and please share any pictures you'd like to see in the next bulletin!

Christmas celebration

It might be too early to be thinking about Christmas but after Halloween, it's scary how quick it comes around! We would like to bring guests and hosts together to celebrate again this year. The Homes for Ukraine team are currently organising an event of food, crafts and dancing to take place: **Tuesday, 19/12/23 | 17:30-20:00 | Evesham Town Hall.**



We hope that guests and hosts will bring along food and drink to share. If you would like to bring something with you, please let us know homesforukraine@wychavon.gov.uk

Scheme updates

Since the beginning of the Homes for Ukraine scheme, the context in which we are working changes regularly. You may be interested in updates as it develops with the changing needs of our guests. Your guests may also have questions about the future. Please keep a close eye on the government website for up-to-date information and releases.

The Home Office recently published the following report, which you might find helpful: [Homes for Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Gas safety certificates and boiler services

For those of you who have been hosting for a longer period of time, you may be required to show an up-to-date gas safety certificate and boiler service document. Please ensure you have these documents ready.

Next Steps and hosting again

Your guests may be thinking about their next steps in the UK, many of our district's guests have already moved into private accommodation or social housing.

In some cases, we look for another host for guests, if you know of someone who is interested in hosting, please let us know and we can get in touch with them. We are also in the process of updating records, so if your guest is moving out soon and you are thinking about hosting again, we can make a note of this.

Guests can find private rental properties by contacting local letting agents or looking at sites such as [Rightmove.co.uk](#) or [spareroom.co.uk](#). We may be able to offer support with deposits for guests. If your guests are thinking about renting privately then encourage them to get in touch with our housing options team who can offer them advice.

Guests can also rent a home from a social landlord. This is usually a housing association which offers homes to people that meet the qualifying criteria at a reduced monthly rent. The two main housing associations in Wychavon are Platform and Rooftop Housing.

There is a lot of demand for social housing so guests will have to bid for properties against other people. Our housing team can help explain to them how the process works in more detail. Ukrainian guests are considered a high priority which will increase their chances of getting a social home to rent but we cannot guarantee they will be successful.

If your guests are thinking of renting a social home in Wychavon then they will need to apply to join our social housing register. You can support them to do this by visiting www.housingforyou.co.uk

If your guests need help finding new accommodation then please email housing.needs@wychavon.gov.uk or call our housing options team on 01386 565000 (option 5).

Please update us as soon as possible if there are any changes with your guest's accommodation- in particular, if they are moving to social housing or private accommodation, we need to be informed of the move out date.