



CANFORD HEATH INFANT and JUNIOR SCHOOLS

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TEACH Trust Poole

Trust Excellence Aspiration Collaboration Honesty

Article 29: Children have the right to develop their personality and talents to the full.

2nd March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

At this time, we appreciate that some families and children may be upset and concerned about the current situation due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Our children have also been talking about this issue.

The Department for Education have published advice for schools on how to support children who have questions or are seeking reassurance about the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The advice acknowledges that teachers are well placed to help children navigate what they see in the media and we have also taken advice from Advanced Certified Specialists in terms of supporting children's emotional wellbeing.

A key message is that it is not possible to shield children from everything that is sad or frightening in the world, but that it is very important to give children the right tools to deal with their emotions. Further details on the advice, which may also be useful for parents and guardians, can be found here:

<https://www.griefspecialists.org/post/talking-to-children-about-the-russian-invasion-of-ukraine>
<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/25/help-for-teachers-and-families-to-talk-to-pupils-about-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-and-how-to-help-them-avoid-misinformation/>

TEACH are using the advice and guidance available to ensure an age-appropriate approach to:

- Establishing the facts from reputable sources
- Teaching children to evaluate information from media
- Acknowledging children's feelings and teaching how to manage them
- Ensuring that children know what to do if they are struggling to manage their feelings.

Another very important message to reiterate, which applies at all times but especially in the current context, is to ensure that you are aware of what your children are accessing via the



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internet and social media. At school, we will only use materials which have been designed to be age-appropriate and are sourced from regulated providers. Children who have unsupervised access to the internet and social media are at greater risk of accessing information that is inaccurate or not age-appropriate.

TEACH schools have outstanding pastoral care systems: if you feel that your child is struggling to manage their feelings around this issue, please let us know so that support can be arranged as needed.

Thank you, as always, for your support.



Laurin Palmer
Head of School



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