

Ukraine

Article

# Online learning helps Ukraine's children stay in school

*While the war has prevented millions of children from attending school, online classes mean many can find a new sense of stability.*

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Available in: [Українська](#) English

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Every morning, before the war, 12-year-old Arseniy would escort his younger sister to school, before riding the subway to his own classes. Now, as the violence rages around them, he attends by turning on his computer.

"I hope they do their homework," says Antonina, his mother, anxiously. "I still remind them, but I haven't checked for a long time."

The war in Ukraine has had a devastating effect on children, with many now bearing the mental and physical scars. Around two-thirds of Ukraine's children are now displaced, terrified, in shock and desperate for safety.

UNICEF is on the ground, providing around 3 million children with a renewed sense of stability through online education, thanks to the Ministry of Education and Science.

However, many are struggling, amid the escalating violence and upheaval.

In the Vinnytsia apartment where Arseniy and his family currently live after fleeing their home in Kyiv, Arseniy sometimes struggles to concentrate. Space is so limited that Ivanka, his nine-year-old sister, studies on the floor in the hallway.

"It is difficult to concentrate in such conditions," says Antonina. "Especially when you get disconnected every ten minutes."





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*Arseniy has an English online lesson.*

Arseniy has good marks, but he misses home and school desperately.

"I want the war to end and I to return to normal life."



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*Ivanna is doing her homework on the floor of the hallway.*

Ivanka studies online three times a week and also spends time with a private tutor. She was forced to leave her prized school books behind in Kyiv.

"I asked other parents to take photos of their workbooks, process the pages in Photoshop and print them so that my daughter could do homework on them," says Antonina.



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*Marianna studies English online using Zoom.*

Marianna, who is 10 years old, also fled Kyiv without her workbooks. While she values the classes, she misses her friends, cocoa breaks and her favorite taekwondo and sewing classes.

"The class chat has become a way to send photos of textbook pages," says Natalia, her mother. "But that is also a good thing – my child has mastered a simple photo editor and writes answers for maths in Paint."



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*Myroslava joins her online preschool lessons.*

Six-year-old Myroslava, who is also displaced in Vinnytsia, now attends an online kindergarten.

The kindergarten, launched by UNICEF and the Ministry of Education and Science in cooperation with the Ptashenya Children's Space and with the support of MEGOGO, offers leisure activities, educational and developmental videos and, crucially, a sense of normality.

"This is great Ukrainian content – educational, entertaining," says Myroslava's mother, Natalia. "Myroslava willingly listened to the fairy tale, learned about space and performed tasks."

The online kindergarten is part of the [NUMO](#) preschool project. Videos are available through the [Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine](#), [UNICEF](#), [MEGOGO](#), [YouTube](#) Kids and other platforms. The latest episodes have received over 450,000 views.

UNICEF and its partners are doing everything possible to scale up life-



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childhood development (ECD) kits have been delivered to areas with large concentrations of displaced families, including the Dnipro, Ivano-Frankivsk and Zakarpattia regions.

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