

Headteacher
Charlton-on-Otmoor, Kidlington
Church View Charlton-on-Otmoor
Kidlington
OX5 2UF

12th February 2019

Dear

You will be aware of the recent Windrush scandal. It underlines how important it is for people to have the necessary paperwork to support their rights to remain in the UK.

Unfortunately, the Windrush Generation are not the only people at risk of being thrown out of the country they consider their home. There are thousands of children who were born in the UK or who settled here when they were young who are growing up without the UK citizenship they are entitled to by law. Some of them may not be aware that they are not formally British because, as children, they take part in education and are treated by the NHS as their British peers. And some families may not be aware that they are entitled to UK citizenship.

We are writing to you to ask you to help raise awareness among your students and their families of the importance of having UK citizenship to be able to continue living in the UK beyond the age of 18, and to enjoy all the rights of UK adults, including in post-secondary education, healthcare and employment.

Amnesty International is supporting the Project for Registration of Children as British Citizens. Here is their website: <https://prcbc.wordpress.com/>. This site has some basic information on British citizenship. The PRCBC can also provide legal and financial support to young people in need. (There is a referral form within the website.)

The current fee for citizenship is £1,012, and of that fee a high proportion - £640 - is profit over the administrative cost to the Home Office. The PRCBC has launched a case in the High Court against the Home Office against unaffordable and profit-making citizenship fees. Amnesty International and the PRCBC are calling on the Home Office to:

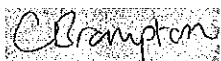
- i) set the registration fee at no more than the administrative cost;
- ii) introduce a fee waiver for those children that cannot afford the fee; and
- iii) provide a fee exemption for children in local authority care.

You may find this Amnesty press release on the matter of citizenship fees interesting:

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/legal-case-launched-high-court-against-uk-government-against-unaffordable-and-profit>

If you would like any more information to help you inform your students about this issue, please let us know.

Yours sincerely,



Charlie Brampton

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