



Hitchin's Christmas Shoebox Project - 2019

We at our school have the opportunity again this year to be part of the town-wide shoebox project coordinated by Walsworth Road Baptist Church working to support the charity, Link to Hope. The project is being launched now in schools and churches, with the hope that once more lots of shoeboxes can be prepared and filled across the town during the Half term break.

Shoeboxes will be collected from school after Half term, and then sorted and prepared for their onward travel. Link to Hope send Christmas shoeboxes, through their own community projects and through trusted local partners, to people known to be in need in Moldova, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania. There are two styles of shoebox – *Family* or *Elderly* – so please choose which style you would like to create, and then wrap the box and lid with Christmas wrapping paper.

Please print out the **Print Me** sheet that comes with this letter, and use the contents list attached to the box lid to fill the shoebox with good things, and *please tick off* all that you have included.

This year Link to Hope have said that there are six categories on the **Essential Items** list, which is the same for both styles of shoebox:

Gloves/ Scarf or Hat;

Chocolate/ sweets (dated after June 2020);

Soap & Flannel;

Toothbrush & toothpaste;

Candle & Holder;

Small Game (eg Draughts, Dominos, Cards)

On the contents list then there are further suggestions of items for you to include as **Extras** (ideally at least five of these), depending on whether you are packing a Family or an Elderly shoebox.

Please do *not* include any of the following items:

Food, Tea / Coffee, Medicines, Books, Second-hand items

Donation

As a small charity and in order to assist with transport costs, Link to Hope ask for a donation of £3 per shoebox to be included with the box (cash or cheque). This is the first increase in this request for a number of years, and Link to Hope are encouraging all UK tax payers to sign the Gift Aid declaration as well, please, to add value to the gift at no additional cost to the donor. The form and the donation can go inside the shoebox, so that it can be passed separately to the charity. The shoeboxes from Hitchin will be cartoned up, 'ready for the pallet', and then delivered to Link to Hope in Sussex for their onward journey.

Thank you for your generous support again this year.

Questions?

Please contact the local project team with any questions, by emailing shoeboxes@wrbchitchin.org.uk or go to the church's website www.wrbchitchin.org.uk Please do not contact the school directly.