

Christmas campaign launched for Ukrainian children



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Once again this year, the town of Bocholt, together with the group "Helfende Hände" and other committed partners, is organising the traditional Christmas parcel campaign "Bocholt helps Verkhnodniprovsk". As part of the solidarity partnership with the Ukrainian town of Verkhnodniprovsk, children and young people are once again to receive Christmas presents - a gesture of solidarity that proved very popular last year.

"The Christmas parcel campaign shows what is possible when lots of people pull together. Every single gift helps to bring a little joy and a sense of normality to children in our Ukrainian twin town," emphasises Mayor Christian Mangen.

Gifts in a shoebox

Residents are asked to fill a standard shoebox with new gifts, wrap it in Christmas wrapping paper and attach a list of contents to the outside, stating the number of items and their weight - this is required under customs regulations. Please also note whether the parcel is intended for a girl or a boy and for which age group (0-2, 3-5, 6-10, 11-14 years). Information on this is available online, at various public locations and at the Bocholt Volunteer Agency. Empty boxes can also be collected there if you do not have a shoebox to hand.

Gift ideas for children

In consultation with the Ukrainian town of Verkhniodniprovs, the Christmas parcels may contain, for example, stationery: colouring books, pens, pencil cases, paint sets, etc. They would also be delighted to receive toys such as dolls, cars, jigsaw puzzles, soft toys, board games and the like. Personal care items such as toothbrushes, shower gel, shampoo, combs, deodorant, towels and so on would also be important. For the winter, gloves, hats, scarves, socks and so on are also good ideas. Items that are not permitted include, amongst others, used or broken items, war-themed toys, electronic devices, batteries, liquid or fragile gifts, as well as food or medication.

Transport to Verkhnodniprovs

The parcels will be transported by lorry on 4 December 2026 to our Ukrainian twin town, Verkhnodniprovs. This ensures that all parcels arrive in time for Christmas and bring joy to the children and young people. Mayor Mangel thanks all supporters: "My heartfelt thanks go to all the citizens who are bringing this campaign to life. Through their commitment, they are bringing a little piece of Bocholt to the children in Ukraine and making Christmas a little more special for them."

Contact person



Petra Taubach

Sitzungsdienst und Internationales

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Delivery options

Christmas parcels can be dropped off until Wednesday, 3 December 2026 at the Bocholt Volunteer Agency, Langenbergstraße 18; at the information desk of Bocholt Town Hall; Kaiser-Wilhelm-Straße 52-58, and at the warehouse of "Helfende Hände St. Josef e.V." at the Westend roundabout, Westend 31-39, wrapped in festive packaging and accompanied by the completed customs declaration form.

Opening hours:

Bocholt Volunteer Agency

- Tue & Wed: 9.30 am-12 noon
- Thu: 9.30 am-12 noon and 2 pm-6.30 pm
- Fri: 9.30 am-12 noon

Bocholt Town Council

- Mon-Thu: 8 am-5 pm
- Fri: 8 am-12.30 pm

Warehouse of "Helfende Hände St. Josef e.V."

- Saturday: 10 am-12 noon



INFO AND LIST FOR CUSTOMS