

Russian Schools to Close in Ukraine Border Regions – Governor

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Schoolroom in the Belgorod region. t.me/vvgladkov

Russian schools near the border with Ukraine will not reopen for the new academic year amid the threat of cross-border attacks, the head of Russia's Belgorod region [said](#) Wednesday.

At least four Russian border regions including Belgorod had canceled school and grounded flights in the days after Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24. A number of attacks, some of which damaged infrastructure and claimed civilian lives, have been reported there in the five months of hostilities — but Ukraine has neither confirmed nor denied being behind them.

“For the time being, we will limit the work of schools and kindergartens located in the five-kilometer border zone. They will be closed,” Belgorod region Governor Vyacheslav Gladkov announced.

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Local authorities will designate which schools the children will attend when the academic year starts on Sept. 1, he added in a Telegram post.

Gladkov identified five Belgorod region towns and villages located nearest to Ukraine's second-largest city of Kharkiv where schools will not reopen.

Kharkiv resisted Russia's attempt to capture the city in the first two months of the war but has faced near-daily Russian shelling over the past month.

Four other Belgorod region settlements further from Kharkiv will resume studies on Sept. 1, Governor Gladkov said.

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