

Supporting Service Children in Education (SSCE) Cymru – project updates

A Service Child is defined as:

- A child who has one or both parents currently serving in the armed forces;
- A child whose parent/s have served in the armed forces within the last six years (Veteran); or
- A child whose parent/s are currently serving as Reservists.

The number of Service Children in Wales:

Schools with Service Children - Please help us to gather data on the number and location of Service Children so that we can ensure schools gain maximum benefit from the vast amount of resources and support that is available to them. By completing the form in the link below you will help SSCE Cymru to have stronger knowledge of the number of Service Children in Wales. You will also be signing up for a quarterly schools newsletter, where we will provide details of events, resources, funding and support that is available through SSCE and other organisations.

<http://www.sscecymru.co.uk/service-children-wales>

Plans for 2018:

- Consider the outcomes of the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) for Service Children research – due in mid-April.
- Continue to scope opportunities to work with local authorities and organisations to identify the number and location of Service Children in Wales – through school admission applications and PLASC.
- Improve communications, work with organisations to share knowledge and promote activity through SSCE website, twitter and introducing quarterly newsletters to SSCE Cymru Network and schools.
- Produce new digital stories for SSCE Cymru website – with a focus on support for Service Children with ALN/SEN.
- Promote best practice through new school case studies on SSCE Cymru website.
- Plan and deliver the 2018 Supporting Service Children in Education All Wales Conference – June 12th.

If you are interested in being involved with any of the above work please contact

millie.taylor@wlga.gov.uk

For more information on the SSCE Cymru project please see www.sscecymru.co.uk and follow us on Twitter [@SSCECymru](https://twitter.com/SSCECymru)

Please feel free to circulate the SSCE Cymru network newsletter to your own network and contacts. Anyone that would like to be added to the SSCE Cymru Network they can sign up here:

<http://www.sscecymru.co.uk/contact-ssce>

SSCE Cymru Network updates

Armed Forces Education Trust

The Armed Forces Education Trust are here to help mitigate the disadvantages that some Service Children experience. They aim to support the most disadvantaged children to improve their education that has been compromised or put at risk by their parents' service.

To ensure that Service Children are given additional support where it is needed, the trust provides educational grants to individual Service Children, schools and clusters of schools.

For more information, visit <http://armedforceseducation.org/>

Service Children's Progression Alliance (SCiP) – Creative Forces Day

The [SCiP Alliance](#) is a UK wide partnership, bringing together organisations to improve educational outcomes for children from armed forces families. With the aim to help Service Children make informed and confident transitions through further and higher education into thriving adult lives and careers.

The University of Winchester has been working with Hampshire County Council and schools in the region to develop service children's aspirations and awareness of higher education since 2014. The University's recent research indicates that children from military families are significantly underrepresented in higher education. The University of Winchester has run collaborative events with Bath Spa University. These 'Creative Forces' days will run again in June 2018 and the model will be piloted by York St John University in April 2018. The days provide a taster of Higher Education for the children and an opportunity to get to know Service Children from their own and other schools and university students from a service background.

For more information on the success of previous 'Creative Forces' days, visit

<https://www.scipalliance.org/news/2017/hampshire-school-students-enjoy-university-of-winchesters-creative-forces-outreach-days>

Directorate Children and Young People (DCYP)

The [DCYP](#), on behalf of the Ministry of Defense (MOD) provides appropriate professional direction, support and advice in order to ensure that children and young people are provided with every opportunity to achieve the best possible outcomes and fulfil their potential.

The DCYP highlighted that the [Office for Fair Access \(OFFA\)](#) have now formally recognising Service Children as an underrepresented group in Higher Education. This means that universities are required to demonstrate how they are actively supporting Service Children's entry and success in their universities.

Children's Education Advisory Services (CEAS)

CEAS is part of the MOD's Directorate Children and Young People (DCYP). CEAS can provide advice and information on issues relating to Continuity of Education Allowance, school admissions and admission appeals, Retention of Quarter for educational purposes, Special Educational Needs registration and much more.

For further information on the support available through CEAS, contact DCYP-CEAS-Enquiries@mod.uk or visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/childrens-education-advisory-service>

Service Children in State Schools (SCISS) conference

SCISS is the English equivalent of the SSCE Cymru project. On 2nd February they successfully hosted a conference in Harrogate over 120 delegates made up of Heads of schools, Local Authority and Government representatives and many organisations who have an interest in the education of Service Children. Speakers included SCiP Alliance, DCYP, Little Troopers, Ofsted and many more. For more information on the event and to see slides from all of the speakers, visit <https://www.scipalliance.org/events/sciss-north-of-england-conference>

Never Such Innocence

Young people aged 9-16 across the world are invited to submit poetry, art or song inspired by the First World War. We accept poetry and song in all languages! Our educational resource is a child friendly journey through the Great War to inspire competition entries. Request two free copies by emailing enquiries@neversuchinnocence.com or download it from our website for free!

Full competition details including entry forms, rules and how to win special bonus prizes courtesy of The Royal British Legion and the RAF can be found on our website www.neversuchinnocence.com. The closing date is Friday 16th March 2018 and the top prize is £400! All entrants receive a Certificate of Commendation and prizes will be awarded at a special ceremony in May 2018.

Llantwit Major Comprehensive School Activity

Primary and Comprehensive school MOD cluster links – In November 2017 an event run by [MPCT](#) was held at Llantwit Major school with five local Primary schools. Pupils had the opportunity to meet and engage with other students from different schools, where they learnt to parade as well as enhancing their skills and knowledge e.g. problem solving, giving directions, follow instructions.

RAF engagement – The RAF U23 Representative Football Team conducted a Pre Inter-Service Championships Training Camp in South Wales 28th January - 2nd February based out of RAF St Athan. On their recovery day (Wednesday 31st January) the team carried out a football session with pupils at Llantwit Major School on the 3G pitch.

Prendergast School working with MKC Heroes

[Military Kids Club](#) (MKC) Heroes and friends meet weekly at Prendergast Community Primary School in Haverfordwest. This term the children have chosen to use K'Nex for construction.



MKC Heroes is a national support group for the children of Service men and women. A tri-Service network of after-school clubs, MKC Heroes brings together members of Service families aged between three and 18 years old from all over the country.

Upcoming events

SSCE Cymru Conference 2018 – with a focus on Service Children with ALN

Cardiff City Stadium

Tuesday 12th June 9am-4pm

For more information and to register to attend please visit <http://www.sscecymru.co.uk/ssce-conference>

If you are interested in speaking at the event or having a market stall (free of charge) to promote the work of your organisation, please contact millie.taylor@wlga.gov.uk

MOD Community Band Night

Llantwit Major School

Date and Time TBC

The school propose a band night with [RAF Voluntary Band](#) and [The band of the Prince of Wales](#). All proceeds raised from the event are to go towards military charities. There will be more details regarding the event closer to the date on the school website. <http://www.llantwitschool.org.uk/>

Resources

RBL Supporting Service Children in School in Wales – A Best Practice Guide

The Royal British Legion has recently launched new guides looking at ways to support Service Children in school. The guides share examples of good practice from across Wales and recommend ways in which Local Authorities, schools and families can improve Service Children's experience in education. The guides provide information on extra funding available to support Service Children, charities and agencies working in the field and how schools and local authorities can improve support.

<https://rbl-live1.bpl-dev.com/get-involved/campaign/support-for-service-children/>

Pupil Information Profile (PIP) for Service Children

A transfer document to be completed by previous school and sent with child to their new school to help with the transition of information regarding specific aspects of a pupil's background and learning.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-information-profile-for-military-service-children>

Moving Schools Guide

A guide for parents and an activity pack to help Service Children prepare for moving school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/moving-school-packs>

Little Troopers

In 2017 the charity launched their Little Troopers at School initiative. The project objective is to help educate primary and secondary schools about the unique needs through circumstance of military children and make available easily accessible resources.

See the Little Troopers at School section of the website for the following resources

<http://www.littletroopers.net/littletroopers-at-school/>

- Information sheets written for schools covering various topics; Challenges faced, Ways you can support Service Children, Examples of what other schools are doing and many more.
- Primary School Resource Pack, full of over 30 resources that can be used to bring the military into school and support Service Children. Includes: Short Story, Literacy and Maths lessons, Role Play plans, everything to make a Little Trooper display board, USB full of forms and templates.
- Recommended reads guide – a compiled list of recommended and reviewed books schools could have in their library.

Moving Made Easier

This information booklet has been created with the help of a Charity called Fixer, working in partnership with the Army Welfare Service, by three young people from Service Families. The support booklet is to be used by children and young people when moving schools/home, especially relevant to forces children.

<http://www.fixers.org.uk/news/16590-11208/moving-made-easier.php>



Follow us on Twitter [@SSCECymru](https://twitter.com/SSCECymru)

**The next SSCE Cymru Network Newsletter will be circulated by the end of May.
If you would like to contribute content to the next issue, please send it to
millie.taylor@wlga.gov.uk by 8th May.**