

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

#### **SSCE Cymru mission**

Following input and feedback during the workshops and activities at this year's SSCE conference (in June) and the SSCE stakeholder day (in September), an SSCE Cymru Mission and Workplan has been created. This is a working document and includes the following:

- 1) The mission and key focuses of SSCE Cymru
- 2) Ideas and notes for further investigation or implementation
- 3) Who SSCE Cymru could work with to achieve each goal/task.

#### **Knowledge and evidence**

*Conduct and commission research into the experiences of Service children in education - to help identify where they experience additional challenges. Use the findings of research to frame the focuses and work of SSCE Cymru.*

#### **Activity and resources**

*Working with schools, local authorities, charities and support organisations to produce resources that will help professionals support Service children throughout their education.*

#### **Impacting policy and systems**

*Work with Welsh Government to ensure the mission of SSCE Cymru is understood. Provide evidence to recognise the impact that policy has on Service children.*

#### **Service children – Wellbeing and Mental Health support in Wales**

As the awareness of SSCE Cymru has increased, so have the number of queries received regarding what wellbeing and mental health support is available to Service children. SSCE Cymru has produced a bilingual document which provides advice and signposts to organisations that can offer support in this area.

This document can be accessed on the SSCE website under 'SSCE Cymru resources':

<https://www.sscecymru.co.uk/resources>

#### **New films and digital stories**

A good practice film 'Brecon High School – Benefits of a Link Person' is now available here:

<https://www.sscecymru.co.uk/ssce-films>

Every Friday until Christmas, a new film or digital story will be added to [www.sscecymru.co.uk](http://www.sscecymru.co.uk)

**For more information on the SSCE Cymru project please see [www.sscecymru.co.uk](http://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

## SCiP Alliance

### Research briefing

The Service Children's Progression Alliance has launched the first in a series of research briefings, each examining the research around a specific aspect of Service children's education. The first two, 'Moving schools' and 'How Service children achieve at A Level', are available to download from the Alliance's website:

<https://www.scipalliance.org/resources/research-briefing-papers>

### "From evidence to action" conference

On 8th October 2018 the SCiP Alliance hosted 97 delegates from schools, colleges, universities, local authorities and charities at the Victory Services Club in London. Delegates looked at the latest research, explored examples of student voice initiatives and heard from Ofsted. The Office for Students delivered a presentation and encouraged HE providers to consider their provision for Service children and to work collaboratively through the SCiP Alliance hub network. Universities and colleges were able to learn from existing practice and make contact with potential partners. SSCE Cymru sat on the panel to discuss where further research is needed.

For more information and to download presentation slides visit the Alliance website:

<https://www.scipalliance.org/events/scip-alliance-annual-conference>

## Welsh Government

### Veterans scoping exercise

The Welsh Government's Armed Forces team is currently running a scoping exercise to identify gaps in services for Veterans and their families in Wales. They would be delighted in hearing from you if you are Ex-Service / a veteran, a family member of someone who has served or an organisation working with veterans.

Access the survey here: <http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/JBE08/>

### Additional Learning Needs Transformation Programme: Frequently Asked Questions

Welsh Government have updated the Additional Learning Needs Transformation Programme: Frequently Asked Questions document.

<https://beta.gov.wales/additional-learning-needs-transformation-programme-frequently-asked-questions>

If you have any additional queries about the Additional Learning Needs Transformation Programme, please contact [SENReforms@gov.wales](mailto:SENReforms@gov.wales)

## Advice and support from CEAS (Children's Education Advisory Service)

CEAS plays an integral role in delivering the Directorate Children & Young People's (DCYP) vision that 'All our children and young people flourish and achieve their full potential'. They offer educational advice, guidance and support to Service families around areas such as school transition and admissions, 'retention of quarter' for educational reasons, CEA and SENA, Special Educational and/or Additional Needs and education overseas, as well as many other areas of enquiry.

Contact: [DCYP-CEAS-ENQUIRIES@mod.gov.uk](mailto:DCYP-CEAS-ENQUIRIES@mod.gov.uk)

## Voyages of Discovery

*Challenge Wales* offer free sail training opportunities for young people who are engaged through partners on the Voyages of Discovery project. This is fully funded by The Big Lottery (until August 2019), and has been very successful over the past couple of years in addressing the personal development of young people through sailing activities, both short term and longer term residential voyages.

The team are currently putting together a sailing schedule for 2019, where there will be plenty of adventure on the high seas, and of course valuable personal development opportunities for those who take part.

For more information on the project, see: [www.challengewales.org](http://www.challengewales.org)

## Prendergast C.P School – Art Project

The school have been collaborating with the local day centre, to produce intergenerational art work that reflects 100 years since the end of WW1. Here are some photos of the group working together.



## Kymin View Primary School update

Visit to Castle and Regimental Museum to learn about WW1.



Schools display WW1 memorabilia and tank that was decorated as part of a school cluster remembrance project.



## Upcoming events

### **SSCE Cymru stakeholder day RAF Valley**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019, 9.30am-3pm**

This will be the second SSCE Cymru stakeholder day. We will run workshops and discuss ways of overcoming the challenges Service children face in education in Wales. It will also be an opportunity for organisations to provide an update on their work.

Further details of this event will be circulated in the new year.

### **North Wales Armed Forces Network/Delivery Group Event**

**Venue TBC**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, time TBC**

This event is to bring all stakeholders together to showcase what they do for the AFC in North Wales (and further afield) and to help facilitate further collaborative work.

## Resources

### **Naval Families Federation**

#### **The Emotional cycle of deployment**

Deployment can be an emotional experience. Understanding the stages and feelings involved can help. These resources were created for Service personnel, spouses, parents, carers and schools.

Adults:

<https://nff.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/making-sense-of-the-emotional-cycle-of-deployment-pdf.pdf>

Children:

<https://nff.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Homeport-pull-out-Making-Sense-of-the-Emotional-Cycle-of-Deployment.pdf>

#### **'Zoe and the Time Rabbit' book**

The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Children's Fund have commissioned a book aimed at younger children.

<https://www.rnmchildrensfund.org.uk/zoe-the-time-rabbit/>

### **SCiP Alliance – UCAS guidance**

The Service Children's Progression Alliance has worked with UCAS to develop guidance tailored to applicants from Service families. The leaflets, downloadable from the Alliance website set students' experiences in context and give schools and colleges the information they need to help Service families navigate the admissions process.

<https://www.scipalliance.org/resources/ucas-guidance-for-service-children-and-schools-colleges>

The Alliance website also lists further sources of support and information on specific issues for Service families around financing higher education: <https://www.scipalliance.org/resources/student-finance-guidance>.

### **Forces Additional Needs and Disability Forum (FANDF) – guide**

This guide intends to offer families with challenging issues a step towards finding some answers to these questions.

[https://www.ssafa.org.uk/sites/default/files/file/and\\_guide\\_2018.pdf](https://www.ssafa.org.uk/sites/default/files/file/and_guide_2018.pdf)

### **Lifting the lid on transition report**

The families' experience and the support they need.

<https://www.fim-trust.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Transition-Final-Report-FINAL-ONLINE.pdf>

## Army Families Federation (AFF) – Army & You magazine

The latest edition is available here:

[https://issuu.com/armyandyoumag/docs/army\\_you\\_winter\\_2018?e=9218182/65625125](https://issuu.com/armyandyoumag/docs/army_you_winter_2018?e=9218182/65625125)



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**The next SSCE Cymru Network Newsletter will be circulated in Spring 2019.  
If you would like to contribute content to the next issue, please send it to  
[millie.taylor@wlga.gov.uk](mailto:millie.taylor@wlga.gov.uk) by 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019.**