



Mis y Plentyn
Milwrol

Month of the
Military Child

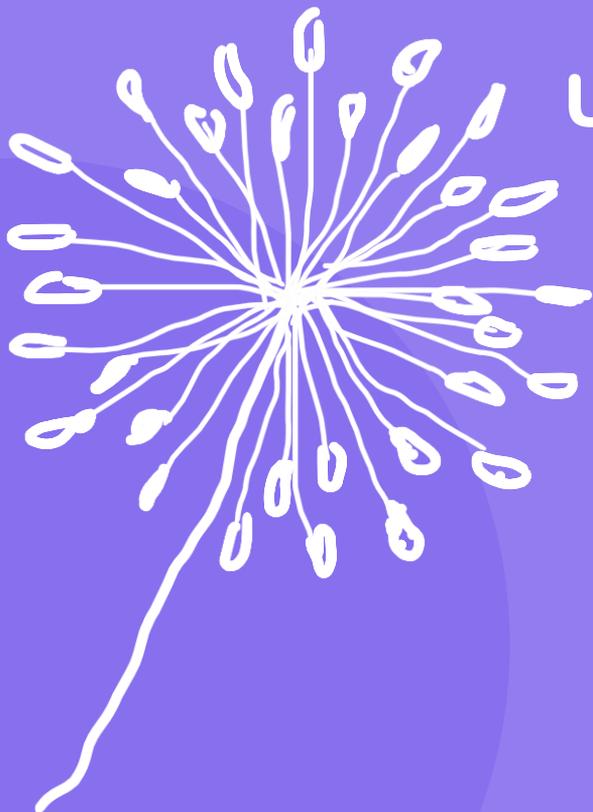


Ebrill/April | #MotMCCymru

Month of the Military Child

APRIL 2026

Ways for schools to get involved...



Understand
Engage
Celebrate

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SUPPORTING SERVICE CHILDREN
IN EDUCATION IN WALES
CEFNOGI PLANT MILWYR MEWN
ADDYSG YNG NGHYMRU

The SSCE Cymru team encourage education settings across Wales to carry out activities during this month to understand the experiences of Armed Forces families, engage with your local Armed Forces communities and celebrate the unique experiences of this group of children and young people.

April is designated as the Month of the Military Child, which highlights the important role Service children play in the Armed Forces community. It is a time to applaud Armed Forces families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and the challenges that they overcome.



For further information, advice or support with any ideas, please visit the [SSCE Cymru Month of the Military Child](https://www.sscecymru.co.uk/motmc) webpage or contact sscecymru@wlga.gov.uk and your School Liaison Officer will be in touch.



Millie
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Jo
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School Liaison
Officer



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School Liaison
Officer



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For further information visit:
www.sscecymru.co.uk/MotMC



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Purple Up Day

Friday 24th April is the day to 'Purple up' for Month of the Military Child!

'Purple up' day is a day dedicated to honouring Service children/ young people through the colour purple, a colour that represents all branches of the Military.



'Purple up' on Friday 24th April for Month of the Military Child!

- Wear purple
- Create purple artwork and displays
- Celebrate and thank your Service children for the important role they play in the Armed Forces community through any of the ideas in this booklet
- Take photos of your celebrations
- Share photos with SSCECymru@wlg.gov.uk and tag [@SSCECymru](#) on social media ([X](#) and [Facebook](#)).



UNDERSTAND

the experiences of an Armed Forces family

Watch and share the [SSCE Cymru Service children's stories](#) to learn more about their unique experiences.

Utilise the [Armed Forces Day Learning Resources](#) to explore the history of the Armed Forces.

Watch and share the [SSCE Cymru good practice films](#) to learn how schools across Wales are supporting their Service children.

On a world map, pinpoint where Service children have lived, or their parents have been posted to be displayed in your school.

Give Service children the opportunity to deliver a presentation about their experiences of being part of an Armed Forces family or share photos, to showcase their positive opportunities.

Conduct pupil voice activities with your Service children to gain a better understanding of their experiences and identify ways the school can respond to their needs.

Use the Royal British Legion's [Remembrance Teaching Resources](#) for age appropriate resources to "reflect on Service and sacrifice" and learn more about our nation's history.

Organise for a member of the Armed Forces to deliver a presentation or activity on a topic linked to the Armed Forces.

Run a story time using books about Service children's experiences, the Armed Forces lifestyle, being a pupil in a new school or appreciating differences in one another. A series of six bilingual [Little Troopers](#) books can be requested for FREE from SSCE Cymru.

Make a Time Zone Wall, including a series of clocks to show the different time zones around the world where Service children have lived, or their parents have been posted.

Learn about the different cultures and traditions from the places Service children at your school have lived.

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ENGAGE

with the Armed Forces community

Celebrate a pupil's family member who has previously served or is currently serving in the Armed Forces by asking children to share pictures and medals.

Ask a current or former member of the Armed Forces (a parent, sibling or friend) to be a guest speaker at the school and share their experiences.

Include information in school newsletters/social media about support available from [Armed Forces organisations and charities](#).

Invite your Local Authority Armed Forces Champion to attend events/activities during the Month of the Military Child.

Use the Month of the Military Child banner and square image on social media and email signatures.

Work with SSCE Cymru to embed good practice and achieve your [Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru](#) status.

Support Service children in writing a thank you card to someone who helped them or was a good friend to them when they arrived in the area.

Create opportunities for Service children to meet and share experiences with other Service children within the local area.

Invite pupils to say a few words of appreciation about the Armed Forces through writing poems, songs or writing letters.

Request a free [SSCE Cymru Snakes and Ladders](#) board game to use during Service children voice activities or as a fun CDP resource for staff.

Attend your local Armed Forces Covenant forum meetings to network and make connections with the local Armed Forces community.



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CELEBRATE

Service children's experiences

Wear purple and 'purple up' your school to celebrate Purple up day on Friday 24th April.

Create a display to celebrate Month of the Military Child using purple artwork.

Encourage Service children to get creative and produce a creative piece that showcases their experiences of being part of an Armed Forces family.

Hold a Month of the Military Child assembly. Invite the Service children to recite the Dandelion poem.

Conduct fundraising activities and donate the proceeds to a local or national Armed Forces charity.

Request free books and resources for your military children from [Reading Force](#).

Request a free [SSCE Cymru Snakes and Ladders](#) game to use during Service children voice activities or a fun CDP resource for staff.

Host a celebratory event for Service children, their family and friends.

Request free Month of the Military Child badges from SSCE Cymru, for Service children and staff to wear during April.

Create purple and dandelion themed artwork and display around the school.

Complete Armed Forces-themed activity sheets, puzzles and wordsearches, available from [Little Troopers](#).

Support children in entering the Never Such Innocence [Poetry and Art Competition](#). Open 1 April - 1 May.

Organise a purple colour run.

Tie purple ribbons on a fence or tree for every Service child in the school.

Work with your Service children to create a mural.

Sing the [songs written by Service children](#) in Wales, produced with Never Such Innocence.

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Little Troopers

Virtual workshops and bilingual books

Little Troopers have created free online workshops with the aim of bringing Service children together to explore the unique challenges and opportunities that they experience, and to celebrate what it means to be a 'Little Trooper'.

A **new** dandelion themed workshop is being launched at the end of March with a focus on friendships.

The sessions are pre-recorded as a 'live' event, delivered by an experienced team of facilitators using Little Troopers' primary school resources incorporating storytelling, movement, group discussion and role play. The workshops are open to all Service children in your setting of primary age and suitable for groups of any size.

Little Troopers / SSCE Cymru bilingual books

These six bilingual books, written from the perspective of a Service child, would be a great addition to your school library for children who have one or more parent serving in the British Armed Forces. All six books have QR codes linked to the SSCE Cymru [Learning Welsh webpage](#) where you can hear the Welsh audio being read aloud.

Contact us at SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk to request your schools' FREE books



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Celebrating the Month of the Military Child with Little Troopers

The military children's charity, Little Troopers, is a great place to go for inspiration on how you can recognise and celebrate the service children in your setting this April.

Little Troopers School Pack

The charity has created a brand-new Little Troopers "Month of the Military Child School Pack" that is free to download from <https://www.littletroopers.net/month-of-the-military-child/>

In the pack, you'll find lots of activity ideas to engage children and get them talking and writing about what life is like growing up as a 'little trooper'.

Dandelion Day – Wednesday 15th April

This year, Little Troopers is encouraging schools and families to get involved in 'Dandelion Day' by wearing something yellow on Wednesday 15th April. This small act will make your service children feel recognised, included and celebrated. It also gives you the perfect opportunity to talk about why the dandelion is the official flower of the military child, by using the Dandelion Poem, which you'll find in the Little Troopers schools pack.

Crafts

Looking for ideas to engage younger children? Head to the Little Troopers website where you'll find fun, dandelion-themed activity sheets to download, including dandelion playdough, dandelion biscuits, dandelion art prints and dandelion crafts.

Events

Little Troopers is also running online and face-to-face events throughout April, bringing together as many military children as possible during the Month of the Military Child. Find out more at www.littletroopers.net/month-of-the-military-child



Dandelion Day
15th April

Dandelion Day returns in April 2026!

Join us in celebrating military children.

Wear something yellow, socks, a scrunchie or anything bright to show your support.



SCHOOLS PACK

April is all about shining a light on children who are connected to the British Armed Forces community. It's time for your school to celebrate the service children in your setting, as well as getting ALL your students to learn more about what it's like to be a 'little trooper'.

As a charity, we think it's really important that schools recognise and acknowledge the unique experiences of military children. Military life can be an exciting adventure, but at times, it can also be challenging.

This pack is full of ideas to help you acknowledge and encourage this, making the month by celebrating your service children for the unique life that they lead and encouraging them to share some of their experiences with their peers.

In the following pages you will find assembly planners, activity ideas, lesson plans and more. Many of the activities are dandelion themed, because the dandelion is the official flower of the military child. Strong and hardy, dandelions thrive wherever the wind carries them, just like our little troopers.

You might choose to do one of the activities or you might do all of them as part of a series across the month.

This pack includes:

- Dandelion Poem
- Letter Writing activities
- Class fingerprint activity
- Assembly Planners – Primary & Secondary
- Certificate template
- Mindfulness Colouring

Dandelion Day - 15th April 2026

We would love to encourage you to dedicate a whole day to celebrating your military children! We have named Wednesday 15th April as Dandelion Day 2026 and we invite you to join us. You might like to ask your children and teachers to come in dressed in yellow or wearing a yellow item such as socks or a hair scrunchie. Alternatively, if you run a Little Troopers Club and children have Little Troopers hoodies or t-shirts, then you might ask them to come in wearing these.

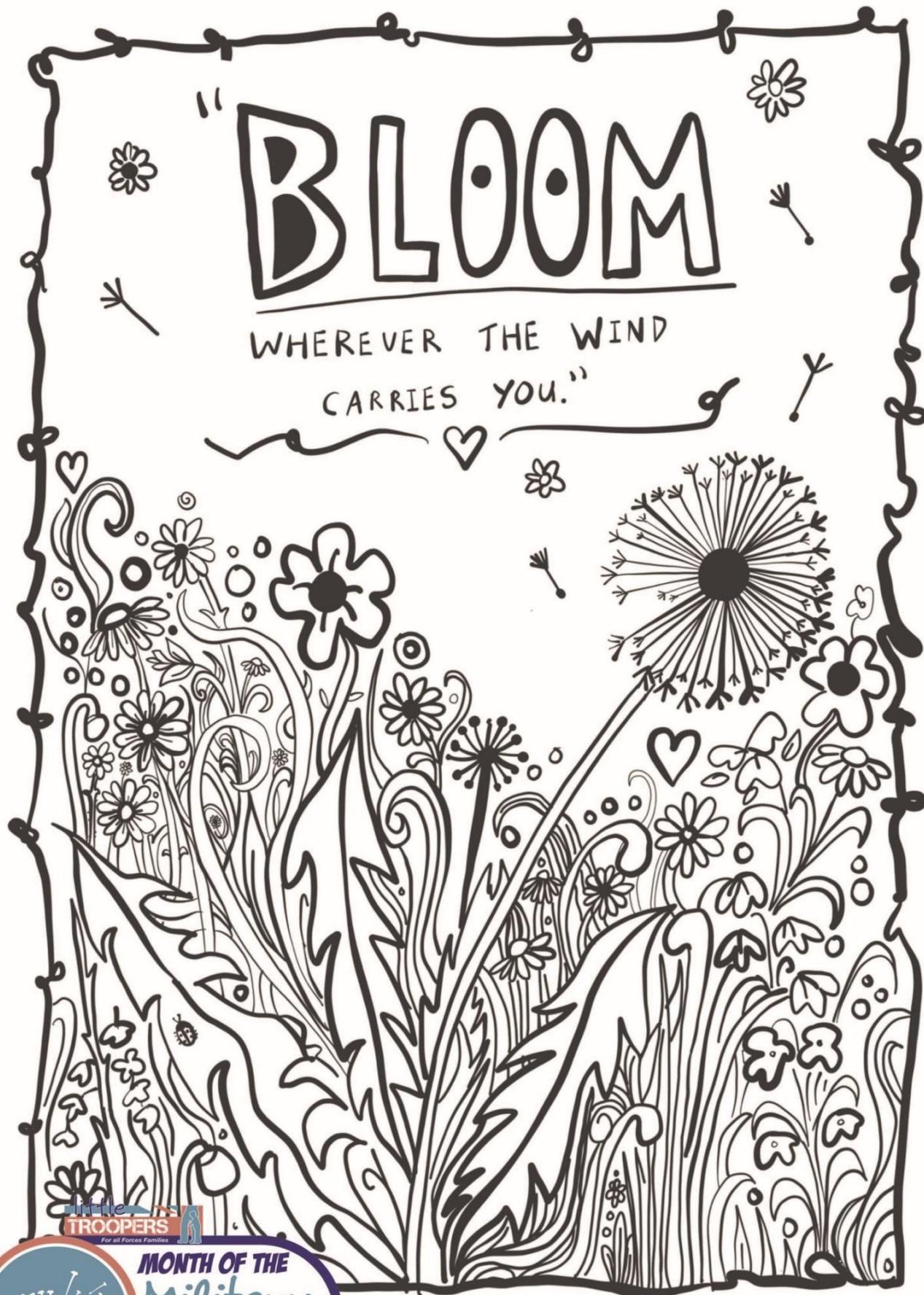
On Dandelion Day, you might choose to do activities from this pack or even invite serving parents to come into school to speak in assembly. However you mark the day, we'd love to hear about it and see your photos so do keep in touch by emailing info@littletroopers.net or tagging us on social media.

Don't forget that we also have lots of free resources to support military children all year round on the Little Troopers website including interactive video workshops especially designed for use in schools, our 'A Day of Feelings' illustrations and worksheets, our Forces Life Club pack and a podcast for military teens (called SQUAD) to name just a few! Head to www.littletroopers.net and the At School page.

Once again in 2026 we are delighted to say it's April to become Dandelion Day. We would love to encourage you to dedicate a whole day to celebrating your military children with your school!

We have named Wednesday 15th April as Dandelion Day in 2026 and we'd love you to join us!

Contact: info@littletroopers.net
 Little Troopers supports equality, diversity and inclusion.
 www.littletroopers.net
 Twitter: @littletroopers
 Facebook: littletroopersonline

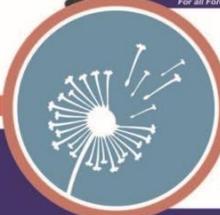


"BLOOM

WHEREVER THE WIND
CARRIES YOU."



MONTH OF THE
Military
CHILD



Email: info@littletroopers.net

Little Troopers Registered charity no.
(England and Wales) 1149258

www.littletroopers.net

twitter: [@littletroopers_](https://twitter.com/littletroopers_)

facebook: [littletroopersathome](https://www.facebook.com/littletroopersathome)



WINDS OF CHANGE GWYNTOEDD NEWID



Poetry & Art Competition

1 APR - 1 MAY

Cystadleuaeth Barddoniaeth a Chelf

1 EBR - 1 MAI

Prizes: Poetry and Art: £25 Amazon Card and Goodie Bag
Gwobrau: Barddoniaeth a Chelf: Cerdyn Amazon £25 a Bag Nwyddau

Bonus Category: Best School Display - £250 Book Voucher
Categori Bonws: Arddangosfa Ysgol Orau - Taleb Llyfr £250

All entrants receive a personalised certificate
Mae pob ymgeisydd yn derbyn tystysgrif wedi'i bersonoli

Winners are invited to London for a special award ceremony and a trip to the Tower of London

Gwahoddir yr enillwyr i Lundain ar gyfer seremoni wobrwyo arbennig a thaith i Tŵr Llundain



[NEVERSUCHINNOCENCE.COM/MONTH-OF-THE-MILITARY-CHILD](https://neversuchinnocence.com/month-of-the-military-child)



**IF YOU'RE INTO IT,
READ INTO IT...
GO ALL IN WITH
READING FORCE!**

**READING
FORCE**



WE'RE INVITING YOU TO REQUEST YOUR FREE BOOKS!

We all know reading makes your world bigger, makes you smarter, and fuels your creativity. But did you know a study has proven that just **SIX minutes** of reading can reduce your stress level by 68%? And reading increases your empathy and compassion. Wow! **2026 is the National Year of Reading**, reminding us to Go All In and get reading.

At Reading Force, we don't just encourage people to read, we encourage you to chat about books – with family and friends. And if you want to, complete one of our special resources – a scrapbook or a teen journal.

Why do it? Because sharing and chatting about a book – whether you loved or hated it, is fun, bonding, and a great excuse for a conversation.



WE'LL HELP YOU BEGIN WITH FREE BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR MILITARY CHILDREN.

We LOVE the **Month of the Military Child**, as we get to shout about how amazing military children are. To celebrate, we're inviting you to request your free books!



Simply go onto our website, request your book and resource and we'll post them to your home.

We are tri-service, and welcome **children & young people aged 0-18**, who are from serving, veteran, bereaved, and divorced forces families. We have books for dyslexia readers too. We would love you to get involved – whether you're new to Reading Force or have taken part before, Go All In.

WWW.READINGFORCE.ORG.UK



Service children's songs

In collaboration with Never Such Innocence, SSCE Cymru are pleased to launch five songs, written by Service children across Wales in collaboration with songwriter Otto Aday. These songs, which were created during the SSCE Cymru Armed Forces Festivals, shine a light on their thoughts, feelings and lived experiences of Service life.

These powerful pieces capture pride, resilience, connection and the realities of growing up in a Service family in their own voices 🎵



All five songs and lyrics are available on the SSCE Cymru [Service children's experiences webpage](#).

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Service children voice

The SSCE Cymru team are passionate about pupil voice. We love to listen to Service children and young people and actively encourage educators in Wales to recognise how listening can help us all change things for the better.



Service children clubs Cymru

SSCE Cymru can offer ideas on various sessions and guidance on how to set up a club in your educational setting. Should your school want to establish a club and would like further information on how to apply for funding to support a project like this, please get in touch.

Who can be a Service Children Ambassador?

Any child or young person with a connection to the Armed Forces who is currently in education in Wales can become a Service Children Ambassador.

If your school has an established club, SSCE Cymru encourages its members to consider volunteering as an ambassador. As an ambassador, they will represent their school's club and may be invited to share their experiences as part of an Armed Forces family with our team and the SSCE Cymru network, giving them an important voice for other Service children and young people in Wales.



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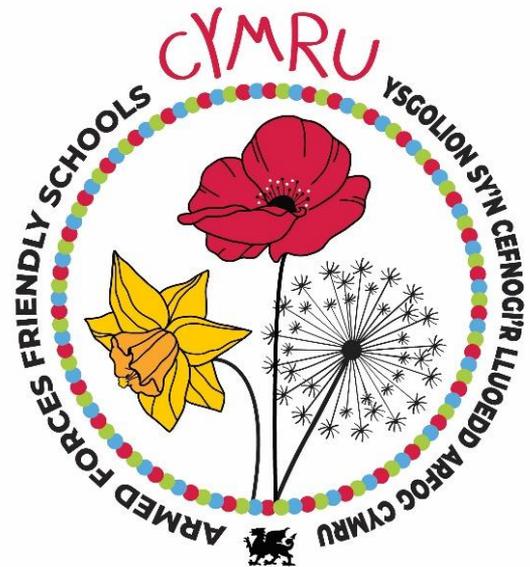


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Become an Armed Forces Friendly School Cymru



OBJECTIVES

1. Embed good practice for supporting Service children

2. Create a positive environment for Service children to share their experiences

3. Encourage schools to become more engaged with their Armed Forces community

CRITERIA THEMES

IDENTIFY

Service children and a key member of staff

UNDERSTAND

Service children and their individual needs

ENGAGE

With SSCE Cymru and the Armed Forces community



For further information and support please visit the [SSCE Cymru Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru](#) webpage and get in touch.

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SSCE Cymru resources

Snakes and ladders game

The SSCE Cymru team are excited to launch this new resource, as a way of recognising that Service children face both positive and challenging experiences.

The game can be used during Service children voice activities or as a fun CPD resource for staff. The quotes included on the game are taken from some of the Service children voice activities we have run over the past year.

Get in touch to request a copy for your school.



Directory of Support

The [SSCE Cymru Directory of Support](#) includes details of nearly 100 organisations that are relevant to supporting Service children with search and filter functions that help users utilise the breadth of information.

E-learning

The [SSCE Cymru e-learning](#) package has been designed to give educators the tools and confidence to understand and support the needs of Service children within their education settings in Wales.

This free training package consists of nine topics and will take roughly two hours to complete. Your progress will be saved so that you can continue where you left off and revisit the training as required.

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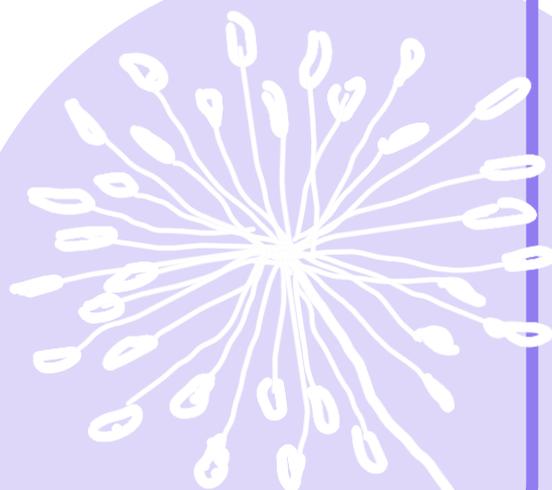


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NOTES / IDEAS:



Don't forget to share your photos with us through the QR code or email SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk

Share on social media by tagging @SSCECymru on:  & 

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