

# MONTHLY BULLETIN

JUNE 2025



# Message from the SSCE Cymru team

*"We hope you had a restful half-term break and are feeling ready for the final term of the academic year!"*

*May was a busy month, with schools and communities across Wales taking time to commemorate VE Day. On the morning of VE Day, our team joined many schools on-line for the Virtual Schools LIVE Assembly. These assemblies, delivered by the Army Regional Engagement Team from the 160<sup>th</sup> (Welsh) Brigade, are a fantastic opportunity to come together for a shared learning experience. If you missed this one, then keep an eye on our [upcoming events webpage](#) for more chances to join future assemblies. You'll also find information there about events planned for [National Armed Forces Day 2025](#).*

*This year, the main Armed Forces Day event will be hosted by Monmouthshire County Council at Caldicot Castle and Country Park. As part of the celebrations, Service children and their peers across Wales are invited to design a jigsaw piece illustrating "What the Armed Forces means to you". The completed pieces will be displayed as one collective work of art on the day. [Click here](#) to download the template and take part. We'll have a stand at the main event, alongside many of our wonderful network members – please do stop by and say hello. It promises to be a fun-filled day!"*



**Millie**  
Programme  
Manager



**Jo**  
Participation  
Lead Officer



**Yasmin**  
School Liaison  
Officer



**Cara**  
School Liaison  
Officer



**Becca**  
School Liaison  
Officer

# SSCE Cymru team

## Programme Manager



Millie

- Coordinates and delivers SSCE Cymru activities aligned to the SSCE Cymru mission.
- Ensures Service children's experiences are understood and responded to in Wales.
- Represents Wales to share good practice across the UK.

## School Liaison Officers



Yasmin



Cara



Becca

- Work with schools and local authorities to identify Service children and maintain a database of school contacts.
- Promote the SSCE Cymru e-learning package.
- Work with education settings to embed support for Service children:
  - Utilise SSCE Cymru resources (School Toolkit and Tools, Funding guidance)
  - Achieve their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru status
  - Celebrate Month of the Military Child
  - Access funding to support Service children and families.
- Identify and promote good practice in schools.

SLOs are funded by:  **ARMED FORCES  
EDUCATION  
TRUST**

## Participation Lead Officer



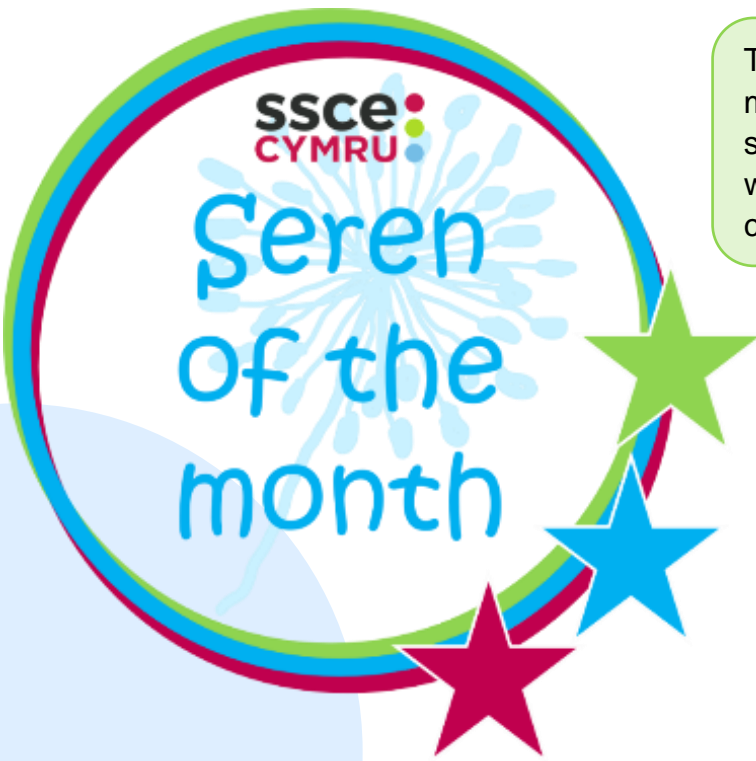
Jo

### Works with schools to:

- Listen to Service children
- Set up Service children clubs
- Facilitate opportunities for Service children to come together to share their experiences
- Celebrate Service children's experiences
- Share the voices of Service children.

Contact:  
[SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk](mailto:SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk)





This is an opportunity for our team to publicly recognise an SSCE Cymru STAR, and say thank you to a Service child, member of school staff, work colleague, network member or organisation that have positively collaborated with us or shown exceptional support to Service children in education and their local Armed Forces community. We are grateful to work with some truly inspiring individuals and groups who ensure that Service children continue to feel valued and celebrated here in Wales.

### Seren of the month – June 2025

Kaye is the Service Children School Champion and Well-being Officer at Pencoed Primary School in Bridgend. She goes above and beyond to support Armed Forces families and runs a dedicated club for the school's 17 Service children. She actively takes part in training to better understand their unique needs and has built strong relationships with families and the local Armed Forces community. Kaye ensures Service children feel valued, especially during the Month of the Military Child, and keeps school displays up to date to promote inclusivity. Pencoed Primary is already a Bronze Armed Forces Friendly School and is working towards their Silver status – thanks in large part to Kaye's efforts. She has also supported the SSCE Cymru programme recently by delivering a fantastic presentation at a SCiP Alliance Hub Cymru development event, demonstrating this school's continued commitment to being Armed Forces Friendly. **Thank you, Kaye, for all your dedication and support – it is truly appreciated!**



**Kaye King**  
Well-being Officer at  
Pencoed Primary School



SSCE Cymru's Armed Forces Friendly Schools (AFFS) Cymru initiative was launched in 2022. Schools in Wales complete a series of activities and actions that are linked to the SSCE Cymru School Checklist, including some compulsory elements, in order to achieve their Bronze, then Silver, then Gold status. The objectives are to embed good practice for supporting Service children, create a positive environment for Service children to share their experiences and encourage schools to become more engaged with their Armed Forces community.

**This month, we are pleased to congratulate the following schools for achieving their AFFS Cymru status:**

**Bronze:** Prestatyn High School (Denbighshire)

**Bronze:** Treffos Independent School & Nursery (Isle of Anglesey)

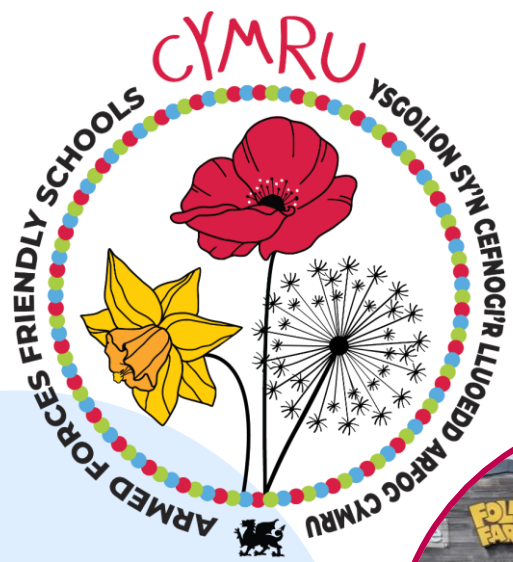
**Congratulations** to all schools who have achieved their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru status.

So far, 38 schools have achieved their AFFS Cymru status. 38 have achieved Bronze, 10 have achieved Silver and 6 have achieved Gold!!!



*See the next page for images of how schools in Wales have celebrated achieving their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru status.*





# SSCE Cymru resources

## Updated website and Tools

**The SSCE Cymru team have been busy conducting a full review and update of our website and school Tools.**

Many thanks to the schools that supported us with this activity.

**Tools now available on the new SSCE Cymru website:**

1. CHECKLIST: School actions and activities
2. TEMPLATE: Armed Forces Covenant school agreement
3. TEMPLATE: Support for Service children
4. TEMPLATES: Data collection
5. CHECKLISTS: Transition in or out of school
6. TEMPLATES: School welcome packs
7. TEMPLATE: Service children school transfer information
8. TEMPLATE: Getting to know Service children
9. TEMPLATES: Service children journal
10. GUIDANCE: Recommended resources SSCE Cymru Padlet
11. TEMPLATE: Service children experience presentation
12. GUIDANCE: Promoting school support for Service children
13. GUIDANCE/TEMPLATE: Service children pupil voice


 [Click here to access the new Tools](#)


## New films

**The SSCE Cymru team are excited to launch a series of NEW Service children stories and school good practice films!!!**

Many thanks to the following schools and their Service children for being part of this very important project and sharing their stories.

- Baglan Primary School (Neath Port Talbot)
- Haverfordwest High VC School (Pembrokeshire)
- Mount Street Infant & Junior School's (Powys)
- Pencoed Comprehensive School (Bridgend)
- Prendergast Community Primary School (Pembrokeshire)
- Ysgol Glan Clwyd (Denbighshire)
- Ysgol Pen-y-Bryn (Conwy)

 [Click here to see new Service children stories](#)

 [Click here to see new school good practice films](#)



# SSCE Cymru e-learning

**Last year, SSCE Cymru launched our highly anticipated NEW on-demand, bi-lingual, e-learning training package on *Supporting Service children in education in Wales!!!!***

Funded by the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, the SSCE Cymru e-learning training 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 however, the training can be accessed by anyone who would like to learn more about supporting Service children within education.

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.

## **Topics included in the e-learning:**

- Introduction to SSCE Cymru
- Armed Forces in Wales
- Service children's experiences
- Education in Wales
- Identifying Service children
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Extra-curricular activities
- Funding to support Service children
- Research and evidence.

*"Great links  
that I will use  
and very  
comprehensive.  
I loved the  
videos."*

*"There are  
several parts of  
this training that  
will impact my  
support and  
practice within  
my schools."*

*"The voice  
clips and case  
studies were  
really helpful  
throughout."*

**100% of  
participants  
found the  
e-learning  
beneficial**



**ARMED FORCES  
COVENANT**  
LLUOEDD ARFOG  
CYFAMOD



# Mis y Plentyn Milwrol Month of the Military Child

Ebrill/April | #MotMCCymru



Click here to  
see details of  
#MotMCCymru  
activities



It's been incredible to receive lots of photos from schools and local authorities, showing us how they celebrated Month of the Military Child 2025! Please send your photos to [SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk](mailto:SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk)



# Reading Force memoir writing competition

## TELL US A STORY... READING FORCE MEMOIR WRITING COMPETITION 2025!



We are delighted to invite children & young people with any kind of military connection to enter! Submissions can be reflections on your own life as a military child or young person, or about a parent, relative, or admired person.



YOU CAN SUBMIT  
ENTRIES FROM 1ST MAY  
UNTIL 31ST AUGUST

### PRIZES

ONE WINNER FROM EACH SERVICE WILL HAVE THEIR ENTRY PUBLISHED IN THE FAMILY FEDERATION MAGAZINES, *ARMY & YOU*, *HOMEPORT*, AND *ENVOY*. SIX RUNNERS UP WILL RECEIVE £50 BOOK TOKENS.

## GOOD LUCK!

Bolt  
Burdon  
Kemp

This competition is  
generously supported by  
Bolt Burdon Kemp

### What are the entry requirements?

Children & young people

Please submit a piece of writing between 500 and 1,000 words. This can be a poem, memory, reflection, or true story. You are welcome to include an illustration.

### How to submit?

All submissions must be emailed to: [info@readingforce.org.uk](mailto:info@readingforce.org.uk)

Posted submissions will not be accepted.

Full details can be found here:

[www.readingforce.org.uk](http://www.readingforce.org.uk)

Reading Force is a Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation No: 1159890, Cofseo member.

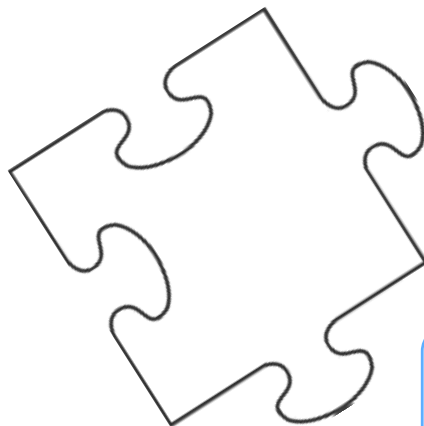
# Armed Forces Day jigsaw artwork

Armed Forces Day is a chance to show your support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community: from currently serving troops to Service families, veterans and cadets.

Armed Forces Day in Wales commemorates and celebrates the Armed Forces community and is a partnership event between local authorities, Welsh Government, the tri-services and other partners. Each year, Wales' Armed Forces Day is hosted and celebrated in a different region across the Country.

**This year Monmouthshire will be hosting the celebrations!**

Monmouthshire County Council are inviting Service children and their peers across Wales to get involved by designing a jigsaw piece which will be displayed as one collective piece of art at the Caldicot Castle and Country Park.



**Artwork theme:** 'What the Armed Forces means to you'.

**To get involved:**

- Download the template from the 'Armed Forces Day' page of the [SSCE Cymru website](#).
- Have fun designing your jigsaw piece!
- Cut out the template
- Return in the post to the address provided.

**POST TO:**

The Armed Forces Team  
Monmouthshire County Council  
County Hall, NP15 1GA

**RETURN BY: 8<sup>th</sup> June**



# Upcoming events

## SCiP Alliance webinar series



This year, the SCiP Alliance are hosting a series of FREE webinars for schools.

**THEME: Principle 7 – Staff are well informed**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 16:00**

Join the SCiP Alliance team for an insightful and thought-provoking webinar exploring the experiences of children from Armed Forces families and the importance of school staff being well-informed.



[Click here for further information and to register](#)



## ARMED FORCES DAY

Armed Forces Day is a chance to show your support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community: from currently serving troops to Service families, veterans and cadets.

**#ArmedForcesDay**

**#SALUTEOURFORCES**



[Click here for further information about how to get involved](#)

### **National Armed Forces Day in Wales 2025**

DATE: Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025

VENUE: Caldicot Castle and Country Park, Monmouthshire

This year, Monmouthshire will be hosting Wales' National Armed Forces Day! It is free to attend and aims to bring the public together in support of the Armed Forces community.

# SSCE Cymru drop-in sessions

Every month, SSCE Cymru host a series of informal drop-in sessions focusing on specific themes. Come along to any of the sessions that interest you, where members of the SSCE Cymru team will share relevant information, promote resources, coordinate discussions, answer your questions and create opportunities for collaboration.

## JUNE schedule

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Tue 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**3pm** Armed Forces Friendly  
Schools Cymru

**Wed 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**10am** Armed Forces  
Friendly Schools Cymru

**Thu 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**3.30pm** Service children  
voice (Primary)

**Fri 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Mon 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**4pm** Armed Forces Friendly  
Schools Cymru

**Tue 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Thu 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Mon 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**3pm** Funding for supporting  
Service children

**Tue 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**3.30pm** Service children  
voice (Secondary)

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Thu 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**10am** Armed Forces  
Friendly Schools Cymru

**Fri 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Tue 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Wed 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**3pm** Armed Forces Friendly  
Schools Cymru

**Thu 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**4pm** Armed Forces Friendly  
Schools Cymru

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup>**



See the further details, including the full timetable and joining instructions here

# SSCE Cymru drop-in sessions

## JULY schedule

	<b>Tue 1<sup>st</sup></b> 10am Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	<b>Wed 2<sup>nd</sup></b> 3pm Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	<b>Thu 3<sup>rd</sup></b> 3.30pm Service children voice (Primary)	<b>Fri 4<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Mon 7<sup>th</sup></b> 3pm Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	<b>Tue 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Wed 9<sup>th</sup></b> 3pm Funding for supporting Service children	<b>Thu 10<sup>th</sup></b> 3.30pm Service children voice (Secondary)	<b>Fri 11<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Mon 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Tue 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Wed 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Thu 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Fri 18<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Mon 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Tue 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Wed 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Thu 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Fri 25<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Mon 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Tue 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Wed 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Thu 31<sup>st</sup></b>	



# Funding...

## Supporting Service Children in Education in Wales Fund (SSCE-WF)

In 2024/25, schools and local authorities (LAs) in Wales can apply for funding throughout the year, to deliver projects specific to supporting Service children in education, linked to the curriculum in Wales.



Ariennir gan  
**Lywodraeth Cymru**  
Funded by  
**Welsh Government**

£1,000 projects – open to all schools and local authorities in Wales.

£3,000 projects – open to schools who have achieved their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru Bronze status and all local authorities.



See further  
information  
here

**FINAL  
DEADLINE:**  
3<sup>rd</sup> June

## SSCE Cymru case management support

Case management is available to schools that have an individual Service child or a very small number of Service children with a specific need related to the impact of their Armed Forces lifestyle.



See further  
information  
here

**SSCE  
-WF**

SSCE-WF good practice  
examples document.

Available here

## SSCE Cymru funding advice document

This document provides advice from the SSCE Cymru team for schools and local authorities, to assist them when applying for funding to support Service children / local Armed Forces community.

It also includes a checklist of suggested actions to help when preparing and completing a funding application as well as a list of funding ideas and suggestions.

Available  
here