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SUPPORTING SERVICE CHILDREN
IN EDUCATION IN WALES

CEFNOGI PLANT MILWYR MEWN
ADDYSG YNG NGHYMRU



MONTHLY BULLETIN

JUNE 2026



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WLGA

Message from the SSCE Cymru team

“We hope you had a restful half-term and are ready for the final weeks of the school year. This June, we’re especially excited to celebrate [Armed Forces Day](#) 2026, with Wales’ national event taking place on 27 June at Pembrey Country Park, Carmarthenshire. It will be a wonderful opportunity to come together, celebrate our Armed Forces community, and shine a light on the strength and spirit of Service children and young people across Wales. If you’re attending, please do come and say hello, and thank you, as always, for your continued support.”



Millie
Programme
Manager



Jo
Participation
Lead Officer



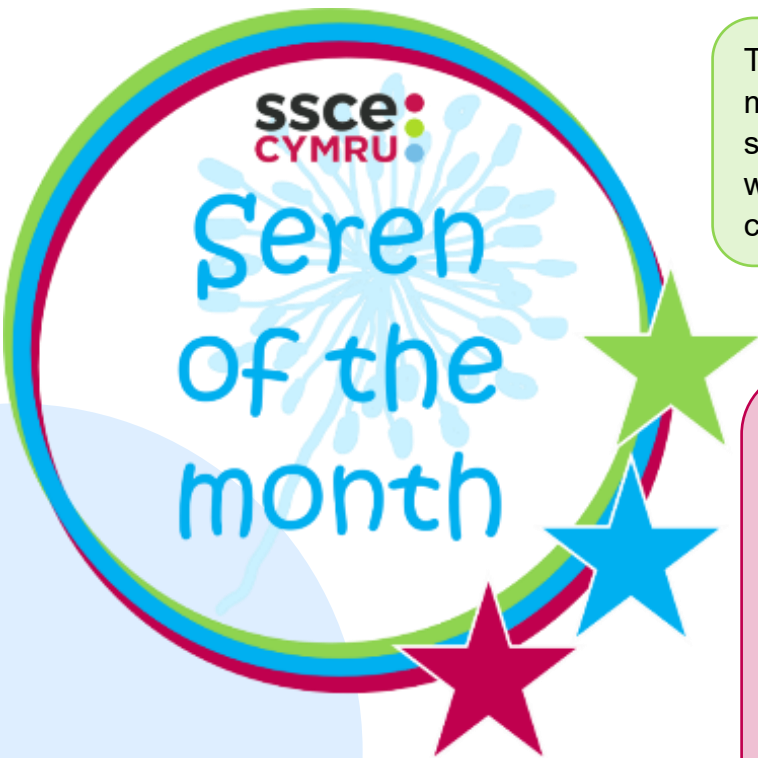
Yasmin
School Liaison
Officer



Cara
School Liaison
Officer



Becca
School Liaison
Officer



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 2026

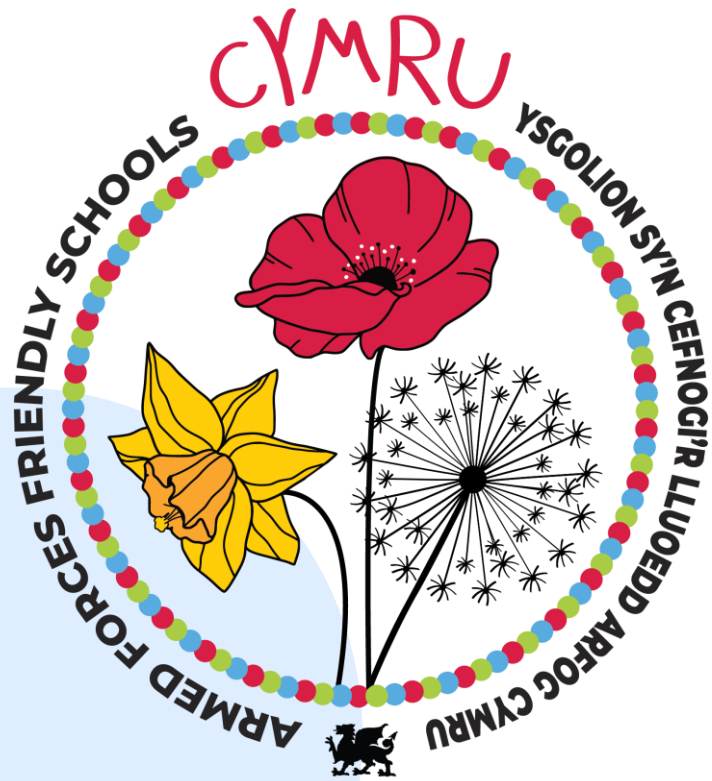
The SSCE Cymru team would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Rhiannon Seymour, Heritage Monuments & Historic Memorials Officer for Rhondda Cynon Taf Heritage and Outreach Services, as our Seren of the Month for June 2026.

Since first connecting with SSCE Cymru in December 2025 to explore funding opportunities, Rhiannon has shown genuine enthusiasm and commitment to creating meaningful experiences for Armed Forces connected children and young people. On 23 April 2026, that commitment came to life at RCT Heritage Park, where 72 children from eight schools came together for a wonderful Month of the Military Child celebration. Co-ordinated by Rhiannon and her team, with support from SSCE Cymru, the Army's Regional Engagement Team and Jamie Ireland AFLO, the day was filled with heritage workshops, creative activities, music from the Royal Welsh Military Band, and an inspiring songwriting session with Otto Aday, from Never Such Innocence. The event gave children the chance to connect, express themselves and feel proud of who they are.

Diolch, Rhiannon, for your vision, warmth and dedication to Service children in Rhondda Cynon Taf.



Rhiannon Seymour
Rhondda Cynon Taf Heritage
and Outreach Services



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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: Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon y Cymoedd (Bridgend)

Bronze: Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi (Pembrokeshire)

Silver: Cefn Saeson Comprehensive School (Neath Port Talbot)

Silver (renewal): Cwmclydach Primary School (Rhondda Cynon Taf)

Gold: Pencoed Primary School (Bridgend)

Gold (renewal): Baglan Primary School (Neath Port Talbot)

Gold (renewal): Haverfordwest High VC School (Pembrokeshire)

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

So far, 51 schools have achieved their AFFS Cymru status. 51 have achieved Bronze, 17 have achieved Silver and 9 have achieved Gold!!!



i [Click here for further information about Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru](#)

SSCE Cymru e-learning

In April 2024, SSCE Cymru launched our highly anticipated 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

SSCE Cymru 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.

We enjoyed playing a large floor size version of the snakes and ladders game at our Armed Forces Festivals held across Wales at the end of 2025.

Contact SSCECymru@wlg.gov.uk to request a FREE snakes and ladders game for your school



Service children's songs

During [Month of the Military Child](#), SSCE Cymru launched five songs, written by Service children across Wales in collaboration with songwriter practitioner, Otto Aday, from [Never Such Innocence](#).

The 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 🎵



SSCE Cymru resources

Supporting children in times of conflict

SSCE Cymru has a webpage dedicated to providing resources relevant to supporting children and young people during times of conflict.

Although some of the resources refer to a specific conflict, many of the resource can be applied to other conflicts. Times of conflict and crisis affect many families, Service and civilian, and a school community plays a vital part in ensuring our families feel safe and supported during a potentially challenging time.

Some of the resources included on the webpage include:

- [SSCE Cymru: Recommended resources Padlet](#)
- [UNICEF: How to talk to your children about conflict and war](#)
- [Childline: Worries about the world](#)
- [Save the Children: How to talk to children about war](#)
- [Barnardos: Talking to children about war](#)
- [The British Psychological Society: Supporting children to manage anxiety over war, conflict and crises](#)
- [Place2Be: Talking to children and young people about war and conflict](#)

Mis y Plentyn Milwrol

Month of the Military Child

Ebrill/April | #MotMCCymru

It's been incredible to receive lots of photos from schools and local authorities, showing us how they celebrated Month of the Military Child 2026!
Don't forget to send your photos to SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk, so they can be added to the SSCE Cymru website.

i Click here to see details of #MotMCCymru activities



Upcoming events

DO YOU WORK WITH CHILDREN FROM ARMED FORCES FAMILIES?

YOUTH/SOCIAL/COMMUNITY WORK
SCHOOLS • NHS • SPORTS CLUBS
LOCAL AUTHORITIES
ACTIVITY CENTRES

Tell us what works!

Service Children's Progression
ALLIANCE
IMPACT CENTRE

 **IMPACT CENTRE LISTENING TOUR**

WALES | 05/06/2026 **CARDIFF**
07/07/2026 **ANGLESEY**

FIND OUT MORE & BOOK AT
scipalliance.org/events

 **CAN'T MAKE IT?**
Other ways to tell us what you think here


University of Winchester ethics approved: HSE16208



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.

#SALUTEOURFORCES

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

National Armed Forces Day in Wales 2026

DATE: Saturday 27th June 2026

VENUE: Pembrey Country Park, Carmarthenshire

This year, Carmarthenshire 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.

Funding


Welsh Government funding

In 2026/27, the Welsh Government Education Directorate are providing funding for the full SSCE Cymru team (Programme Manager, School Liaison Officers and Participation Lead Officer). Funding will continue to be available to schools and local authorities in Wales through the Case Management support programme and a small grant scheme. Full details to be confirmed in September 2026.



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 Cymru funding advice

These documents 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. The checklist includes suggested actions to help when preparing and completing a funding application. The ideas and suggestions document includes examples of activities that applicants could incorporate as part of funded projects to support Service children.


[Available here](#)

Funding drop-in sessions

These informal drop-in sessions are aimed at supporting schools and local authorities in Wales with accessing funding to support Service children in education.

Upcoming drop-in sessions:

- Thursday 4th June 09:00-10:00
- Tuesday 16th June 15:30-16:30
- Friday 3rd July 09:00-10:00

 [See further information here](#)


Funding

Service Pupil Support programme 2027

The MODs Service Pupil Support (SPS) programme will award grants between £5,000 to £150,000 towards a standalone project being delivered over a period of up to two years, to supporting Service children along their educational pathway.

The SPS programme is open to schools, Further Education settings and local authorities.

NOTE: Schools are encouraged to work collaboratively and apply in a cluster.

 [See further information here](#)

Project themes for 2027 are:

- Closing the gap.
- Support for service pupils with ALN.
- Mobility, deployment and separation.
- Low numbers of service pupils.

DEADLINE:
30th
September