

Service Children's Champions Newsletter



May 2026



Welcome to our monthly newsletter!

In these newsletters we will share information about upcoming events, local news and support available for Service children and their families.

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April Month of the Military Child

Last month we celebrated Month of the Military Child. It was lovely to hear from many schools about the events that took place to celebrate. We wanted to share with you all two events we were lucky enough to be invited to.

Ruislip High School

We had the pleasure of delivering an assembly to Year 8 at Ruislip High School all about Month of the Military Child including what it is, why we celebrate it and what life can be like for Service children.

Following the assembly, we attended a coffee morning with parents from Armed Forces families.

It was a great morning to raise the profile of and celebrate Service children and talk to parents about how their children are supported at school.



Ruislip Gardens Primary School

On Purple Up Day, we attended an assembly at Ruislip Gardens Primary School led by Service Children themselves. It was wonderful to hear them share their experiences of being in an Armed Forces family with the rest of the school. It was great to see so many children and adults at the school fully embracing the day by wearing purple to show their support.

We also had the opportunity to meet parents afterwards as part of a special Forces breakfast, where the Service children and their parents enjoyed some time together.

Summer Term Service Children's Champions Events

In Summer 2, we are currently planning two events, full dates and times yet to be confirmed.

CPD sessions with Dr Lucy Robinson from Cardiff University

Two free online bitesize sessions lasting 30-40 minutes

Tuesday 23rd June 1:30pm, Session 1 - Service Children an Introduction

All about service children's key experiences of mobility and separation, diversity of the cohort such as young carers and EAL and their educational experiences.

Wednesday 1st July 1:30pm, Session 2 - Service Pupil Premium

All about SPP, its purpose, eligibility, best practice examples, communicating with parents and further resources.

Please complete this form to register for each event.
Links will be sent nearer the time after registration is completed.
<https://forms.office.com/e/UfkhuPgDvT>

Service Children's Champion network meeting

We are planning for this to be an **in-person event** within the school day, providing an opportunity for schools to come together to share best practice and ideas with each other about how you currently support your Service children and how you hope to moving forward in the next academic year.

If your school would like to host this event, please get in contact with us.

Feedback from Schools

We want to hear from you!

Below is a short survey which we would really grateful if you could complete. We appreciate your time is limited but believe your feedback is important to enable us to deliver support that is beneficial to you. Your responses will enable us to guide our offer of support and help us decide when and where to hold our future Service Children's Champions network meetings and what they will contain.

[Service Children's Champions Feedback Survey - Fill in form](#)

Resource Toolkit for Schools

We are excited to share with you our resource toolkit for schools.

In the toolkit we have collated a large variety of organisations, charities, government information, wellbeing support and moving and transition resources that can be used to support Service children.

For access, please see the separate link on LBH Education Weekly, which will also be sent via email.

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Wellbeing Support

Little Troopers Therapy Programme
<https://www.littletroopers.net/little-troopers-therapy-programme/>
Designed uniquely for military life, the programme offers tailored, face-to-face therapy for children who are struggling with challenges directly connected to having a serving parent. It focuses on the distinct pressures military children face, not general mental health concerns unrelated to service. Referrals can be made for individual or group support and there are also therapy videos available.

Kooth
www.kooth.com
Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online mental health and wellbeing platform for children and young people aged 10-25. It provides access to qualified counsellors through text-based chat, with support available 12pm-10pm on weekdays and 6pm-10pm on weekends. A self-help tool is available 24/7.

Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund
RAF Benevolent Fund Youth Counselling Service
<https://www.rafbf.org/bef-support/emotional-wellbeing/children-and-young-people-counselling>
A specialist counselling service, provided through Relate, is available for children and young people aged 11 to 18 and, on a case by case basis, for those aged 5 to 10. The service offers support on a wide range of wellbeing and mental health issues. The sessions normally take place remotely. They will fund an initial assessment and up to 6 counselling sessions for eligible Children and Young People. To find out more, please call their helpline on 0300.302.1515 or submit a request form on the website.

Hillingdon Thrive **thrive together**
Parent/Care Support and Information . Thrive Hillingdon
The website has been designed to support children, young people, families, and professionals by bringing together clear information, self-help tools, signposting, and a wide range of emotional well-being resources in one accessible place. It aims to make it easier for people to understand what support is available and how to access it.

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Other transition resources

Below is a list of different transition and moving on resources, including deployment notes and wellbeing toolkits that can be accessed by clicking on the pictures. These resources were originally created by the Service Children's Champion in North Yorkshire, who Hillingdon works collaboratively with.

Transition Checklists.pdf

The page displays a grid of resource thumbnails, including:

- A calendar-style checklist titled 'Moving home'.
- A checklist titled 'My home or still in love of the moment'.
- A checklist titled 'Transition Checklists.pdf'.
- A book titled 'My Happy Book'.
- A book titled 'On the move!'.
- A book titled 'My Meet Trainer'.
- A book titled 'We all find it a bit tricky'.
- A book titled 'My Changing Room'.
- A book titled 'I HAVE LOST MY BEST FRIEND I AM SAD I AM CONFUSED I AM ANGRY I AM A BUBBLE!'.



Thriving Lives Toolkit Drop In Clinics

The SCiP Alliance run monthly online drop in sessions about their toolkit, which can help enhance your provision for Service Children.

These sessions have been designed to give you the chance to:

- Explore the toolkit in more detail and understand how it can support your work
- Watch a live demonstration of key features and functions
- Ask questions directly and get tailored guidance
- Share feedback or ideas on how the toolkit could be most useful to you

Whether you're new to the toolkit or looking to deepen your knowledge, the clinic is a flexible space where you can get the support you need.

[Events | SCiP Alliance](#)

Upcoming dates:

21st May 2026 from 10:00 - 11:00

9th June 2026 from 14:30 - 15:30

8th July 2026 from 13:00 - 14:00





Listening Tour

The Impact Centre Listening Tour is an opportunity to share your perspectives on what works for Service children as part of a national conversation. The SCiP Alliance Impact Centre wants to hear from those working with Service children about effective support across home, education, community, and wellbeing settings, particularly how evidence is accessed, used, and shared. These insights will shape future training, resources, and guidance,

Register your Interest

The closest event to us in Hillingdon is being held in Ruislip in October (exact date TBC). It will be a 1-2 hour session to engage in a focus group activity to share your views on key topics related to working with Service children.

Free Event - Details about specific location will be provided upon booking (some venues details are not public), register your interest in a location here: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/1UqyhEfx72>

If you cannot make the in person or online discussion events, you can also submit your thoughts in line with the listening tour structure here:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/903HRrCff7>

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

19/05/2026	YEOVIL	11/06/2026	NORWICH	24/07/2026	ONLINE
20/05/2026	LYMPSTONE	12/06/2026	KING'S LYNN	08/07/2026	WOLVERHAMPTON
21/05/2026	PLYMOUTH	15/06/2026	COTTESMORE	12/08/2026	ONLINE
22/05/2026	HELSTON	16/06/2026	LINCOLN	23/09/2026	PORTSMOUTH
27/05/2026	EDINBURGH	17/06/2026	OXFORD	01/10/2026	ONLINE
28/05/2026	LEUCHARS	29/06/2026	INNSWORTH	OCT (TBC)	HIGH WYCOMBE
29/05/2026	LOSSIEMOUTH	30/06/2026	PRESTON	OCT (TBC)	SALISBURY
01/06/2026	INVERNESS	01/07/2026	YORK	OCT (TBC)	ALDERSHOT
02/06/2026	HELENSBURGH	02/07/2026	CATTERICK	OCT (TBC)	LONDON
05/06/2026	CARDIFF	06/07/2026	CHESTER	OCT (TBC)	RUISLIP
10/06/2026	COLCHESTER	07/07/2026	ANGLESEY	OCT (TBC)	GOSPORT

FIND OUT MORE & BOOK AT
scipalliance.org/events



CAN'T MAKE IT?

Other ways to tell us
what you think here



Service Pupil Support Programme Funding

The Service Pupil Support Programme is open for applications until 30th September 2026.

<https://covenantfund.org.uk/programme/the-service-pupil-support-programme/>

The MOD has partnered with the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust to administer the AF3 Fund. Under this programme, the Trust will award grants for projects which support service children along their educational pathway.

Grants of £5,000 to £150,000 for projects which address the needs of children aged 4-18 in full-time statutory education who are from currently serving armed forces families.

Your project must meet one of the following 4 themes:

- Closing the academic gap
- Support for service pupils with SEN/D, Additional support needs, Additional learning needs
- Mobility/deployment and separation
- Low numbers of service pupils

On the website you will find more information and programme guidance. You can also contact us with any questions.

Contact us



You're welcome to contact us with any questions or concerns relating to Service children, whether you're seeking support for an individual pupil or looking to strengthen provision for your wider cohort. We can help you access appropriate resources, explore funding opportunities, and connect with other schools to share best practice. You may also wish to reach out for CPD or guidance on developing the support you offer, whatever your needs, we're here to help.

Stronger Schools Officers for Service Children

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**THE ARMED FORCES
COVENANT FUND TRUST**