

# Service Children's Champions Newsletter

## June 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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# Free online CPD sessions with Dr Lucy Robinson

Two free online bitesize sessions lasting 30-40 minutes,  
with the chance to ask questions afterwards.

Tuesday 23rd June 1:30pm-2:15pm

## 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-2:15pm

## Session 2 - Service Pupil Premium

All about Service Pupil Premium, 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>

# Summer Term Service Children's Champions Network Meeting

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2pm - 4pm

at

**Vyners Secondary School**

Our next Service Children's champions network meeting will be an opportunity for Service Children's Champions to come together in person and meet one another.

The session will focus on sharing ideas and best practice about how you currently support your Service children and how you hope to in the next academic year.

There will also be information about the support available for service families in Hillingdon provided by those from The Hive, Northolt.

We have tried to incorporate most of the session into the school day but are aware that some colleagues may not be able to attend until afterwards. We are flexible on timings in the afternoon and can adjust them depending on what will suit the majority.

If you have a preference do let us know on the form.

So we can have an idea of numbers, please register for the event on the form below.

[Summer Term Service Children's Champions network meeting - 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.

If you have any difficulties accessing any of the attached links or resources do let us know.



### 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](http://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/get-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 102 1919** or submit a request form on the website.

**Hillingdon Thrive thrive together**  
**Parent/Carer 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. Its aim is to make it easier for people to understand what support is available and how to access it.



**SCISS** Service Children in State Schools (SCISS)  
<https://www.sciss.org.uk>  
 Service Children in State Schools (SCISS) is a network of state-maintained schools in England that have any number of Service children on roll. SCISS is led by a National Executive Advisory Committee (NEAC) comprising of headteachers, local authority officers, the Armed Forces Families Federations, Service Children Progression Alliance (SCIP), DfE and the MOD. They have produced informative factsheets and resources aimed to help school leaders including those who might be new to supporting Service children.

**Little Troopers**  
<https://www.littletroopers.net>  
 Little Troopers is a charity supporting all children with one or both parents serving in the British Armed Forces. Little Troopers ensures British Armed Forces children and their families have access to child-focused support, providing fundamental resources and initiatives for families to use at home. The charity also has a dedicated Little Troopers At School programme which is packed with practical resources to help teachers support children and young people in both primary and secondary schools including Little Troopers Club packs, online workshops, lesson plans, SQUAD Podcast for military teenagers and more. The majority of the Little Troopers resources are available for free.

**Never Such Innocence**  
<https://www.neversuchinnocence.com>  
 A charity that aims to give children and young people across the world a voice on conflict. The charity offers opportunities to reflect on conflict throughout history and today through poetry, art, speech and song. It provides free, online resources, runs an annual competition and can provide workshops in schools with skilled practitioners.

**Reading Force**  
<https://www.readingforce.org.uk>  
 The charity's shared reading initiative encourages families to read, talk, and scrapbook about a book, improving communication and enriching relationships with books and each other, one page at a time. Reading Force complements your pastoral support perfectly. All you need to do is allocate one person to become a Reading Force Ambassador and register with the charity to order your free materials. Armed Forces families can also access support directly from Reading Force.



### Other transition resources

On the next few pages are different transition and moving on resources, including deployment notes and wellbeing booklets. These resources were originally created by the Service Children's Champion in North Yorkshire, who Hillingdon works collaboratively with.


**Transition Checklists.pdf**



**Well-being Diary.pdf**



**On the Move Booklet.pdf**





## 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:

9<sup>th</sup> June 2026 from 14:30 - 15:30

8<sup>th</sup> 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](https://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 30<sup>th</sup> 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.



ARMED FORCES  
EDUCATION  
TRUST

## Individual Grants Open

Armed Forces Education Trust exists to help ease the difficulties that sometimes happen with the education of children of members of the Armed Forces as a result of their parents' service. These difficulties may come about as a result of mobility, deployments or transitions, particularly between counties, countries or devolved nations. The Trust believes the education of children and young people is a vital part of their lives and our society, and that no child should miss out.

An individual grant is a grant awarded to an individual child who needs funds to support his or her education. Examples of successful funding can be found on their website.

Individual grants can be applied for at any time through their website.

[Individual grants - Armed Forces Education Trust](#)

**RAF NORTHOLT**  
**FRIENDS &**  
**FAMILIES**  
**DAY**

**20 JUNE 2026**  
**13:00-LATE**



**SUMMER FETE**  
**13:00-LATE**



## Family Reconnection Weekend

Families to complete the form to register their interest

<https://www.littletroopers.net/event/family-reconnection-weekend/>

All Together is a project from the charity Little Troopers that will be delivering a programme of Family Reconnection Weekends, bringing military families together to take part in new activities that promote connection before, during or after periods of military challenge.

Across the weekend there will be time for children, time for adults and opportunities to come together as a group, alongside special time for families to reconnect away from technology, enjoy the outdoors, and try new experiences together.

- **When:** 1700hrs Friday 31st July - 1400hrs Sunday 2nd August 2026
- **Where:** Potters Bar, Hertfordshire
- **What:** A weekend of woodland adventurous activities with other military children and families.
- **Who:** Military families with children 9 years (school year 4) +
- **How much:** The weekend is funded so no cost however it is your responsibility to ensure you get your family to and from the activity centre. Accommodation in separate wooden pods, food and activities included.
- **Application:** Please complete one form per family.

### Example timetable of activities:

#### Day 1

- Arrive at Centre/Introductions and welcome/Settle in & normal safety procedures
  - BBQ
  - Evening Activity

#### Day 2

- Day of Activities in the Woods
  - Pizza Palace
  - Evening Activity

#### Day 3

- Morning Activity
- Farewells and departures

# 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

Hannah Dent: [hdent@hillington.gov.uk](mailto:hdent@hillington.gov.uk)

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**HILLINGDON**  
LONDON

**THE ARMED FORCES  
COVENANT FUND TRUST**