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SUPPORTING SERVICE CHILDREN
IN EDUCATION IN WALES

CEFNOGI PLANT MILWYR MEWN
ADDYSG YNG NGHYMRU



MONTHLY BULLETIN

JANUARY 2024



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Messages from the SSCE Cymru team...

Regional School Liaison Officer for West Wales



"Happy New Year, and welcome to 2024. I hope you have had a lovely break and looking forward to more exciting things this year, one being the Month of the Military Child coming up in April. Let's start thinking how you would like to celebrate your Service children in your schools. I am looking forward to the year ahead and working with schools in West Wales and supporting them to achieve their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru Bronze, Silver and Gold status. Welcome back, enjoy settling in and welcoming all your children back into the classroom. If you need anything from me, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I look forward to working with you."

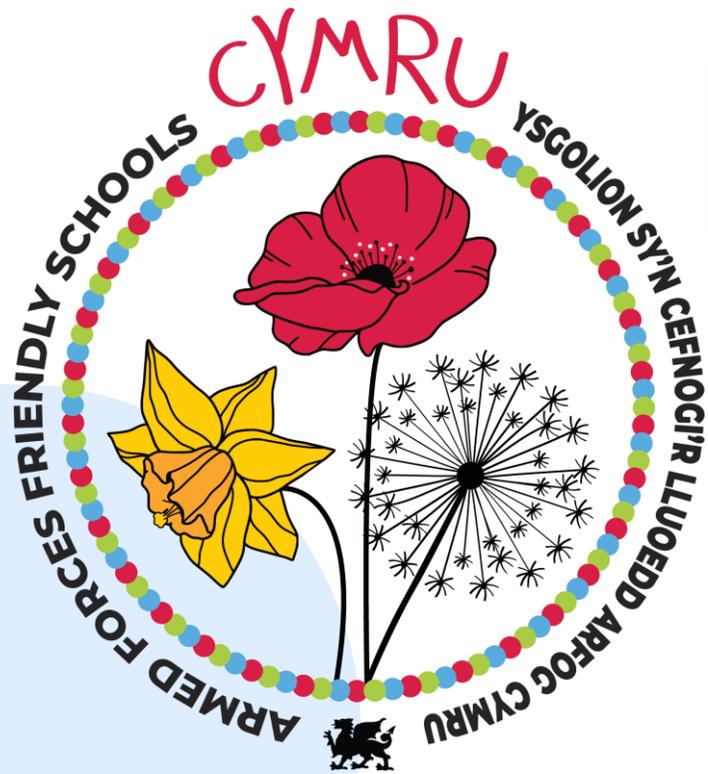
Emma, Emma.Reeves@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

Participation Lead Officer

"Blwyddyn Newydd Dda! I hope that you all enjoyed your festive break and are refreshed and ready for a New Year. As we start another year and look forward to the Spring term it allows us to refocus and consider starting new projects. I was pleased to connect with a few schools in Wales towards the end of last year, who were keen to participate in setting up new Little Troopers (Primary) or Forces Life Clubs (Secondary) at their schools, to bring their Service children/young people together and discover more about this group of students and their unique way of life and experiences. If your school would like to take up the opportunity to do the same and show how you support your Service children/young people and would like some guidance on how to make a start, then please do get in touch with me or your Regional School Liaison Officer. We look forward to hearing from you."

Jo, Joanna.wolfe@wlga.gov.uk





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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 Bronze AFFS Cymru status:

Ysgol Y Felin (Carmarthenshire)
Llanwern High School (Newport)

Congratulations to all schools who have achieved their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru status. So far, 20 schools have achieved their Bronze status, 5 schools have achieved Silver and 3 schools have reached Gold!!!



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





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Month of the Military Child Mis y Plentyn Milwrol



April/Ebrill | #MotMCCymru

Ways for schools to get involved...

- Understand
- Engage
- Celebrate



See further
information
here

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Further information...

SSCE Cymru E-learning

The SSCE Cymru team are very excited to be in the process of working with Walkgrove Ltd to develop a NEW on-demand, bi-lingual, e-learning training package on 'Supporting Service children in education in Wales', based on the content of the CPD sessions which have been successfully delivered by the RSLOs over the past few years.

LAUNCHING
SOON!

SSCE Cymru data collection

Last year's data held by SSCE Cymru indicate that over 35% of schools in Wales have Service children enrolled, with around half of those having only 1 or 2 Service children.

SSCE Cymru would like to ensure we have a strong understanding of the number and location of Service children in Wales. Therefore, we are requesting that all schools, if they haven't already, complete the digital form [here](#) to provide us with the most accurate record.

We kindly ask schools complete this no later than **31st January 2024**.

To support you with this activity we would recommend your school consider using the SSCE Cymru [Tool 4 \(Template letter to parents/carers\)](#) or use a free online survey tool (e.g. Microsoft Forms) to collate the data.

Please liaise with your [Regional School Liaison Officer \(RSLO\)](#) for support.



See further information here

Funding...

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

In 2023/24, 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.

£5,000 projects – open to schools who have achieved their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru Bronze status and all local authorities.



See further
information
here

**NEXT
DEADLINE:
9th Feb.**

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](#)

SSCE Cymru funding advice drop-in sessions

An opportunity for schools and local authorities to have an informal discussion with the SSCE Cymru team during these regular drop-in sessions held throughout the year between 15:30-16:30. Join the virtual meeting to ask questions, share ideas, discuss collaboration and learn from others.

- Monday 15th January
- Monday 5th February
- Wednesday 6th March
- Wednesday 17th April
- Tuesday 14th May
- Wednesday 12th June



See further information about
how to join a session here

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