

ssce
CYMRU



SUPPORTING SERVICE CHILDREN
IN EDUCATION IN WALES

CEFNOGI PLANT MILWYR MEWN
ADDYSG YNG NGHYMRU



MONTHLY BULLETIN

JULY 2024



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WLGA

Message from the SSCE Cymru team...

"As we approach the end of another academic year, we're thankful for the continued support of our wonderful network members. With particular thanks to all the amazing school staff that remain committed to supporting their Service children. As a result of an increase in more schools across Wales achieving their [Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru](#) status, this has ensured a better understanding of Service children's experiences and encouraged further positive connections with local Armed Forces communities. We've been delighted to see lots of schools and local authorities celebrating events such as [Month of the Military Child](#) in April, [Armed Forces Day](#) in June, or taking the time to actively listen and engage with this cohort of children and young people. Whether this is via Little Troopers and Forces Life Clubs or through individual pupil voice sessions, this has allowed numerous children the opportunity to feel recognised, heard and valued for how they rise to the challenges presented by this unique way of life. Please look at the [SSCE Cymru journal](#) for some of the photos that have been shared with us throughout the year and do keep us up to date with any activities your school is organising in the new academic year. We love to hear from you!

Many Service children/young people and their families will be preparing for a relocation move during the summer months. These children will be getting ready to say goodbye to their current friends and will undoubtedly be feeling nervous and excited for their next adventure. Relocation postings can be a tough time for most. If you would like to learn more then please sign up to our FREE [SSCE Cymru e-learning](#) package where you can listen to some Service children sharing their experiences.

If you need to contact us, please direct all enquiries to SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk. Enjoy the Summer everyone, stay safe and we look forward to seeing more of you at our [SSCE Cymru drop-in sessions](#) in September."



Millie
Programme
Manager



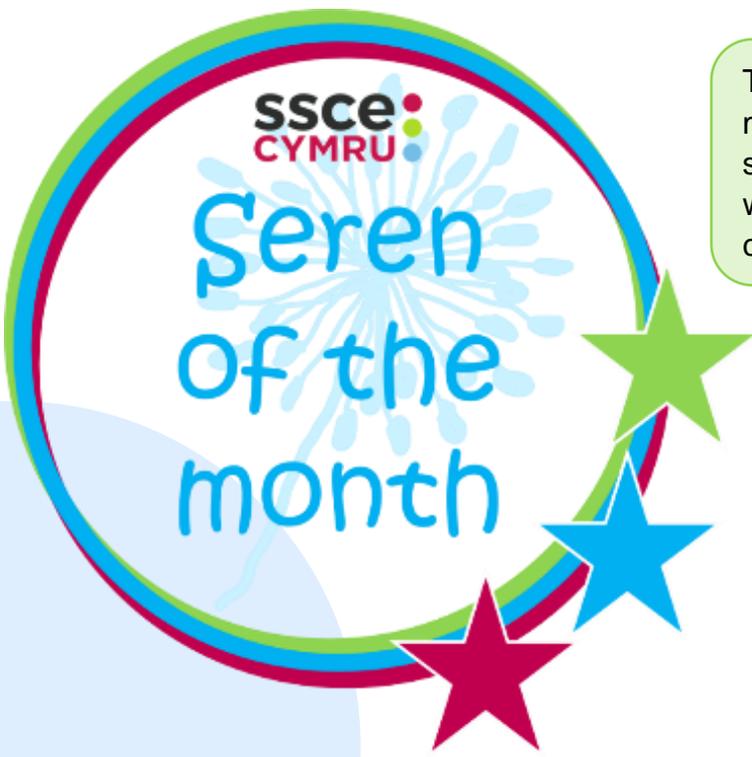
Jo
Participation
Lead Officer



Cara
School Liaison
Officer



Yasmin
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 – July 2024

Etta works within the Wellbeing Hub at Pencoed Comprehensive School and has collaborated with the SSCE Cymru team to embed support for the Service children and young people at the school.

Etta implemented the Service children group based on her own experiences of being a Service child, sibling and wife, and understands how this can impact on family life. She brings a positive attitude and a personal touch to those she supports and a service that she is passionate about.

Etta exemplifies all that is good about supporting Service Young People. She runs a weekly group where learners can come together and discuss how they are impacted by having members of family who are in the forces. This allows the young people to open up about their shared experiences and offer support to one another. Etta has patience and kindness, in addition to her dedication, hard work and commitment in supporting these young people. She is proactive in raising money for them to take part in fun activities and good causes that benefit the group.

Thank you, Etta, for all your hard work and commitment!!



Etta Bishop
Pupil Well-being and Family
Liaison Officer
Pencoed Comprehensive School

Month of the Military Child Mis y Plentyn Milwrol



April/Ebrill | #MotMCCymru



HH HAVERFORDWEST VC SCHOOL
VCS YSGOL LUNCHRADD GRH HWLFFORDD

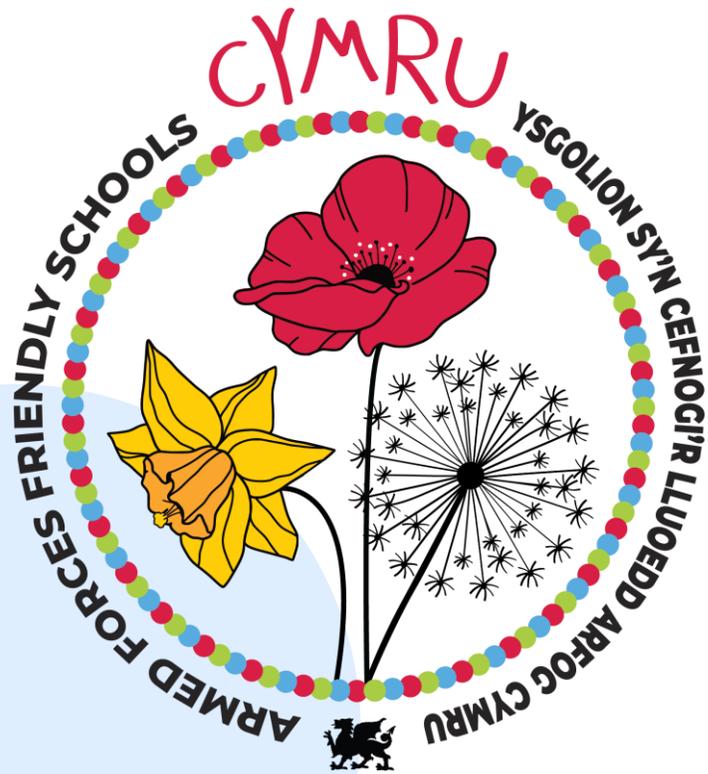


i Click here to see details of #MotMCCymru activities



It's been incredible to receive lots of photos from schools and local authorities, showing us how they celebrated Month of the Military Child! Please send your photos to SSCECymru@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 AFFS Cymru status:

Bronze: Ysgol Cefn Meiriadog (Denbighshire)

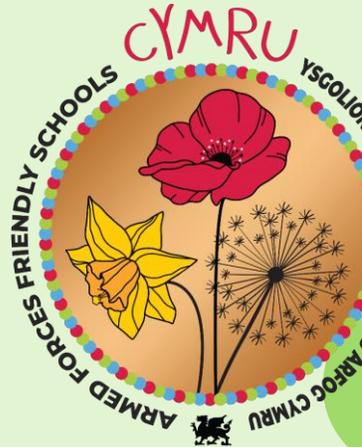
Bronze: Ysgol Y Tywyn (Isle of Anglesey)

Bronze: Ysgol Uwchradd Aberhonddu (Powys)

Bronze: Ysgol Y Ddraig (Vale of Glamorgan)

Silver: St Athan Primary School (Vale of Glamorgan)

Congratulations to all schools who have achieved their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru status. So far, 30 schools have achieved their AFFS Cymru status. 30 have achieved Bronze, 7 have achieved Silver and 4 have achieved Gold!!!



30



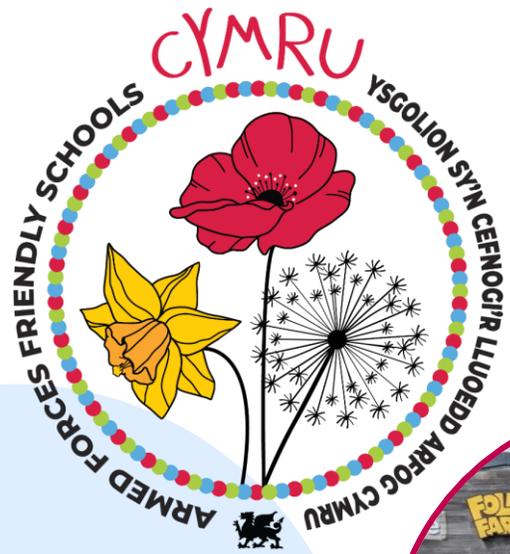
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[Click here for further information about Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru](#)



SSCE Cymru e-learning

To celebrate Month of the Military Child in April, the SSCE Cymru team 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.

"Hearing from the children was great."

"It was very interesting to learn of the different mobility, deployment and transitions that families experience."

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

"Excellent information and support available."

100% of participants found the e-learning beneficial

NOW AVAILABLE



**ARMED FORCES
COVENANT**
LLUOEDD ARFOG
CYFAMOD

Further information...

SSCE Cymru ALN survey

SSCE Cymru is conducting a survey with schools in Wales to gain a snapshot of the challenges schools may be facing in supporting Service children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN), and to identify examples of good practice.

The survey is estimated to take between 5-15 minutes to complete.

The information provided will be used to inform practice and policy in relation to supporting Service children with ALN.

Survey deadline: 31st July 2024

 [Click here to complete the survey](#)



Impact of the Armed Forces Covenant Legal Duty survey

The MOD Covenant Team want to hear from bodies in scope of the Duty (including schools and LAs) in order to assess the impact.

The data collected will help us identify areas where bodies in scope can be supported in implementing the Duty. It will also help to demonstrate the good work that is being done across the UK to support the Armed Forces Community.

The survey is estimated to take around 10 minutes to complete.

Survey deadline: 15th July 2024

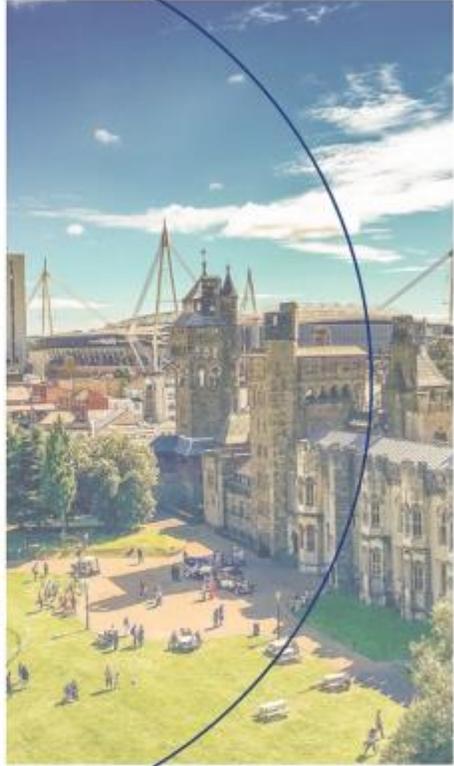
 [Click here to complete the survey](#)



Upcoming events...

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

13th Nov 24
SCiP Alliance
Annual Conference
CARDIFF



Service Children's Progression
ALLIANCE

SSCE Cymru drop-in sessions



From April 2024, every month, SSCE Cymru will 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.

JULY schedule

Mon 1st 2pm Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	Tue 2nd	Wed 3rd 10am Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	Thu 4th 10am SCiP Alliance Thriving Lives Toolkit	Fri 5th
Mon 8th 2pm Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	Tue 9th 2pm Service children voice	Wed 10th 10am Local Authority Action Plan	Thu 11th 3pm Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	Fri 12th
Mon 15th 2pm Funding for supporting Service children	Tue 16th	Wed 17th 10am Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	Thu 18th	Fri 19th
Mon 22nd	Tue 23rd	Wed 24th	Thu 25th	Fri 26th
Mon 29th	Tue 30th	Wed 31st 2pm Local Authority Action Plan	i See the further details, including the full timetable and joining instructions here	

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. Full details will be available in September 2024.



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 details of the
2023/24 funding
process and guidance
documents 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

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