

Stakeholder Day: ACTIVITY 2 (New SSCE Cymru resources feedback) summary

1. Elements of the new resources that are most useful:

General

- New branding/style x 2

“The colours are great.”

Website

- Easy to navigate x 5
- Visually appealing x 4
- Films x 4
- Service children’s quotes x 3
- Relevant information and guidance x 3
- Bilingual

“Children’s quotes - really shows who the website is looking after.”

“Crammed with useful information and clear guidance how schools can find support.”

“The film outtakes are wonderful.”

“Kymin View film is very inspiring.”

“Website is bright and inviting and easy to navigate around.”

School Toolkit

- Relevant content/information x 4
- Visually appealing x 2
- Tools linked to Toolkit

“School Toolkit is excellent - looking forward to the parent toolkit.”

“Content in the school Toolkit is fantastic, I've learnt a lot already.”

2. Elements of the new resources that could be improved:

Website

- More links/advice on learning Welsh
- Coloured circles/dots on the homepage is busy
- Add a tab for parents’ information
- Add a picture of Millie to the ‘About SSCE Cymru’ page
- Add a ‘Moving to Wales?’ button on the homepage
- Can't see the full name of all the pages under 'Resources' tab
- Add information about support offered by the Armed Forces Education Trust (AFET) to the ‘Information for Service children’ page

Toolkit

- Enhance the message that many Service personnel are 'weekending'
- Add details of how a Service child whose parents are separated could be impacted
- Consider moving the Armed Forces section to after the Service children's experiences
- Create a checklist for a parent/family moving to Wales
- Consider the content being on a website rather than a PDF

Directory

- An option to filter the support directory by audience (teacher, parent, child etc)
- Update the MKC Heroes website and social media links.

3. Questions and answers:

QUESTION: Is there anything in the Toolkit aimed at Home Schooling or would that be a totally separate strand of work?

ANSWER: Not currently, but this is something we can consider when we come to update/review the Toolkit content early next year.

QUESTION: Is there a Welsh version of the Toolkit?

ANSWER: We are yet to finalise the content for the Toolkit as there will inevitably be amends made following the Stakeholder Day activities/feedback. All of the new resources are due to be formally launched mid-April, including Welsh.

QUESTION: Will the Parent Toolkit include information about expectations of learning Welsh?

ANSWER: Yes absolutely. There has also been a suggestion during the Stakeholder Day that we add a parent tab to the website, where the Welsh language information/support can be enhanced.

QUESTION: Is it possible to navigate around the toolkit without having to scroll through all of the content?

ANSWER: Yes. The tabs 'Back home' and 'Contents' at the top of each page allow you to navigate around the PDF.

In response to the ACTIVITY 2 discussions and feedback, SSCE Cymru will take the following actions:

Website

- Add additional content to the 'Learning Welsh' page
- Add a tab for parents/carers with information aimed at them and directing them to relevant parts of the website
- Add information and photos of the team when the Regional Schools Liaison Officers (RSLOs) start later in the year
- Fix the issue with not being able to see the full name of all pages under 'Resources' ✓
- Add additional content to the 'Information for Service children' page, as provided by AFET

Toolkit

- Change 'Warrent' to 'Warrant' in the pecking order table ✓
- Check and update the content to ensure it appropriately shares the message that many Service personnel are 'weekending' ✓
- Add details of how a Service child whose parents are separated could be impacted
- Consider holding the Toolkit content on a website rather than on PDF when reviewing/updating in 2021.

Tools

- Ensure that the Tool we are planning to produce, 'CHECKLIST: Moving school', includes advice on activities to support settling into the new community/area.

Directory

- Change 'The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Children's Fund' to 'Naval Children's Charity' ✓
- Update the MKC Heroes website and social media links ✓
- Look into adding a filter option for the different types of audience.

Stakeholder Day: **ACTIVITY 3** (ideas for promoting new SSCE Cymru resources) summary

Ideas of how the SSCE Cymru network can promote the new resources:

Local authorities (LA)

- Ensure all staff in the education team are aware of the resources
- Share on social media
- Link the SSCE Cymru website on relevant pages of the LA website
- Consider adding a 'Service children' specific page to the LA website, with information on what the LA does to support SC and details of SSCE Cymru
- Email details to all schools
- Promote benefit of SSCE Cymru resources through cluster leads
- Share details in relevant LA or regional newsletters
- Work with AFLOs when they are delivering basic awareness raising training to LA staff on the Armed Forces Covenant, to include an education section
- Share details with Public Services Boards (PSB)

Schools/education settings

- Share on social media
- Include details of SSCE Cymru support and resources on the school website
- Update all school staff, including non-teaching, on the resources through internal communications

Charities/support organisations

- Link the SSCE Cymru website on relevant pages of the organisation's website (e.g. dedicated Wales page and/or partner and resources page)
- Ensure education specialists/other relevant personnel in the organisation are aware of the resources
- Share on social media, particularly during education (or other) themed months as appropriate
- Include details in digital and physical magazines/newsletters/resources
- Promote during family days/events
- Share/use links and elements of the School Toolkit that aren't specific to Wales (e.g. Service children's experiences) with contacts across the UK
- SSCE Cymru to contribute a blog article

Other

- Press release to launch the resources
- Education Consortiums to include details of SSCE Cymru support and resources on website
- Deliver presentations at Headteachers conferences/events.

In response to the **ACTIVITY 3** feedback, SSCE Cymru will take the following actions:

- Produce an 'Ideas of how to use and promote the new SSCE Cymru resources' document, including the above suggestions
- Circulate the above document to network members when all resources are finalised.

Stakeholder Day: ACTIVITY 5 (Listening to our Service Children findings report feedback) summary

General comments/feedback:

“Very useful information and we should all take heed of it in order to support children properly.”

“Having read the report it is clear that SSCE Cymru and engaged stakeholders have a good grasp of the effects on military life on Service children as I don’t think there is anything in the findings that would be classed as new information or a surprise.”

“Love the way the new branding works – really compelling.”

“This really hits home just how challenging life can be for Service children (SC). The majority of SC voiced their worries around deployments, and this is something schools need to take seriously and ensure that they know who their SC are and ensure that they are supported.”

“Great to see the report – some great data and feedback there, all the more powerful as its straight from service children.”

Questions and answers:

QUESTION: I agree that schools needs to understand the individual child's journey rather than assume military children all have the same experiences. It would be great to go back to these children now or in 12 months.

ANSWER: Yes absolutely. We hope to conduct the school survey and ‘Listening to our SC’ discussion groups again in the future and see what elements we can compare against the initial findings.

QUESTION: Were there any comments about families living separately (e.g. family in one location, Service personnel serving at a location elsewhere in Wales or England?) that speak to the experiences of repeated separation as opposed to deployment?

ANSWER: Interestingly I don’t think there were really. We had a structure to the questions but put a lot of emphasis on encouraging discussion and comments that weren’t relevant to what we were asking. We logged the type of responses in groups, adding additional response types when SC said things that didn’t fit in our initial response options.

QUESTION: Pg7: “This is supported by the findings of the SSCE Cymru school survey (2019), where the top answers from primary schools regarding the challenges Service children face were all in relation to the emotional impact of separation due to deployment.” Have you got any figures to explain further? Do you have any details on the emotional impact of separation?

ANSWER: See pg5 of the [School survey findings](#). See the ‘Impact of deployment’ (pg21) section of the [School Toolkit](#) for more information.

QUESTION: Will you consider a briefer infographic version with the headlines perhaps?

ANSWER: Great idea. I’ll have a think about how to do this.

QUESTION: Great spread of participants and interesting that it included private schools, something we sometimes get asked. Is it officially published now?

ANSWER: Yes, please do go ahead and share with your contacts. We will send to the SSCE Cymru network on 24th with an infographic (as suggested above).

QUESTION: Is the report going to be shared with all schools across Wales? I do think some best practice schools will already be aware of some of the findings and have support in place.

ANSWER: Yes. We will be including a link to the report in the [SSCE Cymru Spring Newsletter](#). When all new resources are finalised and available on the website in English and Welsh, we will be sharing details and ideas, with the SSCE Cymru Network members and all schools in Wales, on how to use and promote/distribute the new resources.

In response to the ACTIVITY 5 feedback, SSCE Cymru will take the following actions:

- Finalise the 'Listening to our Service children (2020) – findings' document ✓
- Produce an infographic image which summarises the report content ✓
- Circulate the above document to the SSCE Cymru network ✓
- Continue to listen to our Service children through discussion groups and working with schools
- Organise follow up discussion groups with the same Service children in 2021.

Stakeholder Day: ACTIVITY 8 (Funding priorities feedback) summary

1. Funding priorities in school settings:

General

- Collaborative projects x 3
- Bi-lingual support x 2
- Projects focused on sustainability x 2
- Subject matter experts to identify priorities

Staffing

- Dedicated support staff in school and/or cluster x 3
- In schools that demonstrate good practice x 2
- In schools that actively seek to understand the needs of their Service children x 2
- In schools that engage well with SSCE Cymru and other stakeholders x 2

Support

- Wellbeing support (ELSA/Thrive) when required x 2
- Tutoring when required x 1

Resources

- Little Troopers books and Wellbeing course x 1

Other

- Events (sports day etc) with Armed Forces personnel running activities
- Flexible dates for parents' evenings (for Service personnel living away during the week)

Research

- Impact of routine (repeated separation, mobility, deployment).

2. Funding priorities outside of school settings:

General

- Collaboration x 3
- Subject matter experts to identify priorities x 2
- Welsh language support

Support

- People/staffing to support schools x 2
- Training on Service children experiences x 2

Resources

- Bank of resources to be used by all
- Sharing good practice

Other

- Events/opportunities for Service children to meet x 2
- Events for Service families.

3. Ideas of measuring the impact of funding:

General

- Clear project outcomes from the beginning
- Utilise subject matter experts' opinions
- Sharing good practice of successful measuring of impact
- Advice from/working with SSCE Cymru is essential
- Measure improvement/change in learning performance
- Measure the impact on wellbeing
- Armed Forces Covenant Trust are currently developing a measurement tool
- Work with the SCiP Alliance to align measurements across the UK

Measurement tools

- Should be qualitative and quantitative, and linked to outcomes
- Measures should be taken before, during and after a project/intervention

Formal:

- National Curriculum levels of core subjects
- Improvements/changes in predicted grades
- Improved attendance figures
- BOXALL profile (social, emotional, behavioural)

Informal:

- Pupil voice
- Survey with Service children and families
- Wellbeing measures (Thrive etc.)
- Confidence measure/scale

Reporting

- Written report from school (who, what, how, when, why)
- To include examples of how to measure the impact.

In response to the ACTIVITY 8 discussion and feedback, SSCE Cymru will take the following actions:

- Use this feedback during discussions with funding providers when identifying priorities
- Continue to develop new resources and case studies as suggested above
- Identify ways SSCE Cymru can achieve any of the above suggestions within the workplan for the new RSLOs.