

SUPPORTING SERVICE CHILDREN IN EDUCATION IN WALES

CEFNOGI PLANT MILWYR MEWN ADDYSG YNG NGHYMRU





# MONTHLY BULLETIN

**OCTOBER 2023** 











# Messages from the SSCE Cymru team...



#### Regional School Liaison Officer for West Wales

"Welcome to your October bulletin, I hope you have now settled back into your routine at school. Next month we will be remembering our fallen as Remembrance day approaches. Have a look at the Royal British Legion resources and think of activities your school could do to remember. If there is anything I can support with, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We continue to work with schools to achieve their bronze, silver and gold Armed Forces Friendly Schools (AFFS) Cymru status.

Please see our website for further information and contact me to schedule a time to meet so I can support your school in becoming Armed Forces friendly."

Emma, Emma.Reeves@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

#### **Participation Lead Officer**

"The SSCE Cymru team have been busy sorting out a few exciting new projects, such as launching our Seren of the month award last month. It occurred to us that we work with so many unsung heroes, Service children ambassadors and colleagues, who help us achieve our mission that they deserve a 'shout out' for their efforts and continued support. We look forward to shining a spotlight on a few of these stars over the course of this year. Could you be one? Also at the end of this month, we are due to join our colleagues from the Veterans Team to celebrate the first Service Children Awards Cymru. This will be a fantastic opportunity to hear from you, our Service children/young people. I was pleased to see that there were so many nominations from across Wales. Good luck to all the shortlisted finalists!"

Jo, Joanna.wolfe@wlga.gov.uk







#### Senior Regional School Liaison Officer

"I am so excited to be back with the team after nine months off! It's been great to hear about all the hard work the schools and local authorities have been doing to continue their support for Service children, I am looking forward to working alongside the RSLOs to develop support and provisions and see more schools achieve their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru status."

Yasmin, Yasmin.Todd@pembrokeshire.gov.uk



WELCOME BACK YAZZ!!!

We all hope you had a lovely time with beautiful baby Freya while you were on maternity leave!
Welcome back ©









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 – October 2023**

Pen y Bryn. As a mother of three and a spouse to a serving member of the Armed Forces, Sarah has firsthand experience of this lifestyle and as a result understood the importance of setting up a Little Troopers Club at the school. This has given the Service children at the school an opportunity to come together regularly, share their individual experiences and have fun. Diolch Sarah and the Ysgol Pen y Bryn Team! Please do keep up the good work.



Sarah Hayward Learning Support Assistant Ysgol Pen y Bryn













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:

- Cwmclydach Primary School (Rhondda Cynon Taf) for achieving their Silver status.
- Haverfordwest High VC School (Pembrokeshire) for being the first secondary school in Wales to achieve Gold status.

Congratulations to all schools who have achieved their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru status. So far, 14 schools have achieved their Bronze status, 4 schools have achieved Silver and 3 schools have reached Gold!!!







## Resources...

### **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.



### SSCE Cymru Service family guide

The SSCE Cymru Service Family Guide is now available in Nepalese.

Many thanks to Powys County Council for securing the funding to ensure this valuable resource is available for even more Service families in Wales to benefit from!



## **SSCE Cymru journal**

See the new SSCE Cymru journal for details and photos of what the team have been up to recently!



Available here



### **SSCE Cymru School Checklist**

The SSCE Cymru Tool 1 (Checklist: School actions and activities) has recently been reviewed and updated.

The new version includes references to the Armed Forces Covenant Legislation and clearly indicates actions that are linked to the SSCE Cymru Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru statuses.

Available here

### **SSCE Cymru promotional resources**

SSCE Cymru has a new promotional leaflet and poster! Please use these resources to help raise awareness of SSCE Cymru. Contact <a href="mailto:SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk">SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk</a> if you'd like any physical copies.











## Events...

#### Service children awards Cymru 2023

#### Congratulations to all of the finalists in the following categories:

- Contribution to Sport
- Service Children Ambassador of the Year
- Community Award
- Unsung Hero Award.

We look forward to celebrating with you on 28th October!



See details of finalists here

#### **SCiP Alliance annual conference 2023**

#### Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 Birmingham

Connecting professionals with evidence and with each other to support Service children's journeys to thriving lives.

See further details and book tickets here

## Remembrance 2023

#### **Remembrance 2023**

11th November 2023

Remembrance honours those who serve to defend our democratic freedoms and way of life.

#### **Key Stage 2 Live Poetry Workshops**

3rd, 4th & 5th October 2023

Free poetry workshops exploring Remembrance through imagination, creativity and performance!

#### **Teaching Remembrance resources**

Produced by the Royal British Legion, all resources are:

- Available for key stages 1, 2 & 3 and Youth Groups
- Made up of lesson plans, bitesized activities and assemblies to support teachers and parents
- Free and linked to National Curriculum
- Differentiated to provide both support and challenge
- Available in Welsh.

See the SSCE Cymru website for further information, advice and

resources







## **Armed Forces Festivals 2023 – West Wales**

SSCE Cymru invites Service children and their peers to the Forces Festival in West Wales!

Date: 11th October 2023

**Time:** 10:00 – 14:30

Venue: Haverfordwest High VC School, Pembrokeshire, SA61 2NX

Come for a day filled with fun activities including:

- Forces Fitness session
- Never Such Innocence poetry / song writing activity
- World War Wales workshop.

Visit the SSCE Cymru website to book!











## Funding...

#### **Supporting Service Children in Education in Wales Fund**

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 27<sup>th</sup> Oct.

# 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 and a list of funding ideas and suggestions.

Available 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.





