



16 April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to express how useful it is when families inform us that a family member is due to be or has been deployed. This knowledge enables our staff to be aware that child/ren may be unsettled and to then respond appropriately.

### Why we would appreciate knowing:

Children often show stress in subtle ways. Deployment can trigger anxiety, sleep issues, anger, or dips in concentration. Our staff can only recognise these changes for what they are if we are aware of changes at home. A child who suddenly becomes quiet, tearful, or disruptive may be coping with worry. When staff know the reason, we respond with appropriate support. For example:

- Emotional literacy support assistants (ELSAs)
- Lunchtime Nurture
- Check-ins with a trusted adult

### Practical benefits for children:

Staff can keep routines predictable and provide children with structure, which helps when home life feels uncertain. If the deployed parent is in a different time zone or has limited contact, we can help your child write letters, draw pictures, or prepare things to share when communication is possible.

Awareness during special events: Father's Day/Mother's Day crafts, family assemblies, or "Who's in your family?" activities can be handled sensitively.

### Why it helps the parent/carer too:

You won't have to repeatedly explain things. Staff already understand the situation and can respond appropriately.

You get a team around your child. You're not carrying the emotional load alone, we are a partner in supporting your child.

Updating us about any deployment will give your child the best chance to feel safe, understood, and supported while a parent is away. Should this be needed please find the deployment information sheet attached and email this to your child's class teacher. Alternatively hard copies can be asked for at the school office.

Yours faithfully

Lindsay Fry  
Headteacher

*Attachments: Copy of Deployment Pack / Copy of Military Deployment Information Sheet*

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