

Supporting our Service Families at Corsham Primary School

2020-2021

This document provides an overview of Corsham Primary School's offer for our Service children including ways in which we use the Service Pupil Premium funding.

The purpose of the Service Pupil Premium

All schools receive additional funding (£310 per pupil per year) to enable us to offer pastoral and emotional support for children from Service families during challenging times. Its primary purpose is to help mitigate any negative impact that children may experience as a result of increased family mobility or parental deployment.

Provision

Our provision consists of discrete resources or opportunities for our service children and families as well as resources embedded in the day-to-day teaching and learning opportunities for our children. It is recognised by the government that some of the support needed by service children doesn't require a dedicated resource, but sensitivity, awareness and thoughtfulness on the part of all staff who support them.

Supporting transition/ mobility	<p>Inclusion Managers</p> <p>We have an Inclusion Manager on each site who manages the inward and outward mobility of our Service children. This involves liaising with previous or next schools to ensure that key information is received and passed on and shared with key staff members. It also helps to ensure that children settle well and have a positive start with us at Corsham Primary or at their next school.</p> <p>The Inclusion Managers act as champions for our Service families, raising awareness amongst staff of the needs of our service children and families.</p> <p>If you have recently joined Corsham Primary or will be leaving us, please get in touch with Mrs Metcalfe at Broadwood or Mrs Smalley at Pound Pill to discuss transition.</p>
Supporting Deployment	<p>Deployment Pack</p> <p>We have a deployment pack filled with lots of ideas to support children before, during and after deployment.</p> <p>Communication Packs</p> <p>We have pairs of dedicated iPads which can be borrowed whilst a family member is away from home due to deployment or work commitments. These iPads are paired together so that the child and deployed parent can send messages, FaceTime each other and share photos easily.</p> <p>Huggable Heroes</p> <p>Huggable Heroes are cuddly toys made using a special photo of a loved one. http://www.huggableheroes.co.uk/.</p>

	<p>If you think this would benefit your child whilst a parent is deployed, please let us know so we can organise for them to receive a Huggable Hero.</p>
<p>Supporting Pastoral/ Emotional needs</p>	<p>Well Being support including ELSA and Sandtray Therapy</p> <p>One of the principle goals of the Service Premium is to provide emotional and pastoral support for children from Service families. We have provided training for Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSAs) to support children with any difficulties they may be experiencing. This could include strategies to manage emotions, cope with bereavement, cope with anxiety or raise self-esteem. Sometimes, it simply provides time and space for children to talk about how they are feeling. Our Service Premium helps us to fund their ongoing training and supervision for our ELSAs from the Educational Psychology service. This year we are pleased to be training 1 new ELSA and 4 new members of staff in Sand Tray therapy so that we can further expand this capacity.</p> <p>Happy Self Journals</p> <p>We can provide children with ‘Happy Self’ journals to help to support positive thinking and provide a tool for reflection.</p> <p>Meet and Greet</p> <p>Some children have found separating from parents in the morning difficult, particularly during times of change or deployment. We have used a ‘meet and greet’ system successfully to support children where needed.</p> <p>Army Welfare Service</p> <p>We are currently liaising with the Army Welfare Service to provide a series of 6 virtual assemblies for our children in Years 5 and 6 to support emotional resilience.</p> <p>Family Support</p> <p>Our Family Support Officer, Niki Dolman is available for any families in our community who need family support. This can include advice on parenting or emotional or social support.</p>
<p>Teaching and Learning</p>	<p>Interventions and resources</p> <p>At Corsham Primary School, we include our Service children as a key focus group within our Inclusion Team. Therefore their academic progress is not only tracked by their class teacher but also by the Inclusion Managers who can implement specific additional interventions if needed to support teaching and learning.</p> <p>Where gaps are identified, the Inclusion Managers in conjunction with the class teachers can implement interventions or provide resources to target support in these areas.</p>

	<p>International links are referred to when the opportunity arises in class and through international activities in school. This gives children the opportunity to share their own experiences if they wish to.</p>
Enrichment opportunities*	<p>Rainbow Club We offer a lunchtime Rainbow Club once each term in which our children from Service families are invited to attend and chat with other Service children whilst doing crafts or playing games. This helps to celebrate our Services children and gives them an opportunity to build relationships with other children who may have similar experiences to share.</p> <p>Trips and activities We look for opportunities to enrich the experiences of our Service children through trips and other activities. In the past this has involved trips to the Lydiard Park Field of Remembrance where our Service children have represented both our school and HMS Heroes. It has also involved inter-school competitions and a trip to the farm.</p> <p><i>*Our enrichment opportunities are currently on hold due to Covid restrictions but we are looking forward to reinstating them as soon as possible.</i></p>
Resources	<p>We continue to expand our resources that are available to our Service children as and when they need it. This includes adding to our growing collection of books to support Service children.</p> <p>We also invest in additional resources (crafts, games etc) in anticipation of our Rainbow Clubs re-starting as soon as Covid restrictions allow.</p>
Useful Links	<p>Army Welfare: We are developing positive local links with The Army Welfare Service Community Support team with aim of delivering joint projects in school.</p> <p>MKC Heroes: We have links with Military Kids Club Heroes : http://mkcheroes.co.uk/ We work with them to provide the crosses for Remembrance Day and they also provide us with lots of links and ideas for projects.</p> <p>Reading Force: Reading Force is a shared reading initiative which encourages families to read, talk, and scrapbook about a book, improving communication and enriching relationships with books and each other – one page at a time. https://www.readingforce.org.uk/</p> <p>Little Troopers Little Troopers are a registered charity supporting all children with parents serving in the British Armed Forces, regular or reserve. They provide fundamental resources, initiatives and events to ease and aid repeated separation periods. http://www.littletroopers.net/</p>