

Welcome:

Welcome to North Yorkshire! We hope that you will enjoy your time here whether you are here for a relatively short time or longer term. There are approximately 3000 Service Children and Young People in our schools and settings though this is an ever fluctuating number. We recognise that there are many challenges for military families and particularly for families with children and young people with special educational needs. Our service meets regularly with colleagues in the Local Authority, both in the SEN teams and in Education and Skills and with the Service Pupils' Champions to improve the service that our military families and children and young people receive.

Service families with children with special educational needs and disabilities are recognised in the Code of Practice Jan 2015:

10.54 Children whose parent(s) are Service personnel may face difficulties that are unique to the nature of their serving parent's employment. These needs may arise from:

- ***Service induced mobility: Service personnel may relocate more often than the rest of the population and, sometimes, at short notice. Such transitions should be well managed to avoid Service children with SEN experiencing delays in having their needs assessed and met***
- ***the deployment of serving parents to operational arenas, while not constituting SEN in itself, may result in a Service child experiencing anxiety, dips in educational performance and/or emotional difficulties.***

In addition, as a signature of the Military Covenant all agencies seek to uphold the spirit of the Covenant that no member of a Service family should experience disadvantage because of their military lifestyle.

As you may know, there are differences between the devolved authorities in the provision of SEN and at times for military families moving between, for example, Scotland and England or Germany and other parts of the UK or other countries it can be a confusing process to navigate. We hope that you find this guide useful. There is a list of useful contacts where you can get more advice and help. The most important piece of advice we can give you is that **it is never too early to start planning your move** and that as soon as you know you will be moving here you can contact us for advice. This is particularly important if your child has an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Moving to North Yorkshire with an Education and Health Care Plan (or a SCAN document or an Individual Education Plan if coming from overseas)

Prior to your move contact your current Local Authority's SEND Department and ask them to collate all your child's paperwork including the EHCP, reviews and reports. Request a transfer of all paperwork to NYCC SEND Team:

sen@northyorks.gov.uk

01609 535002



Contact the NY SEND team to inform them of the date of your move and your new address. Research schools in NY. Contact SENDIASS for advice. All schools have sections on their websites on SEND policy and practice



NY SEND Team consult with schools you have preferenced - schools have 15 days in which to decide whether they can meet need



Once school is identified start date is agreed. Assessment and Reviewing Officer appointed to conduct a moved in review, usually within 3 months

The following is a list of useful sources of information and assistance and other organisations to support:

SEND Code of Practice 2015

The Children and Families Act (2014) reformed legislation relating to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The SEND Code of Practice is statutory guidance for organisations that work with and support children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. It sets out duties, policies and procedures relating to Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014 and associated regulations, and it applies to England. The following bodies must 'have regard to' the Code: Local authorities – education, social care and relevant housing, employment and other services.

Contact: www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25

CEAS (Children's Education and Advisory Service)

CEAS provides advice, support and guidance regarding the educational well-being of the children and young people belonging to families in all 3 services and eligible MOD civilians who are based overseas. All advice given is impartial, child-centred and focuses on the best interests of the individual. Army families with children with SEND are *required* to register with CEAS, while RAF and Naval families are *encouraged* to register.

The CEAS team is comprised of qualified teachers and experienced case advisors who can answer queries predominantly via email and telephone.

CEAS provides authoritative, confidential, impartial advice to service and eligible MOD civilian families on a wide range of educational issues including:

- parental rights and responsibilities
- children or young person's rights and responsibilities
- special educational needs and/or disability
- school admissions and appeals
- retention of quarters for educational purposes

Contact: DCYP-CEAS-Enquiries@mod.gov.uk /CEAS helpline: 01980 618244 or 94344 8244

Directorate of Children and Young People (DCYP) assistant head of SEND services, Anna Vrahimi

Service Pupils' Champions, North Yorkshire

Service Pupils' Champion is a unique role which was created by North Yorkshire County Council to provide extra support for the large numbers of Service children in the County. There are two Service Pupils' Champions in North Yorkshire working to support the emotional well-being and social development of children and young people aged 5-18, especially during periods of active deployment and exercise and at times of transition.

Contact: www.servicepupilschampion.co.uk

Army Welfare Service

The Army Welfare Service is the Army's professional welfare provider; it delivers a comprehensive and confidential welfare service responsive to the needs of individuals and families and the Chain of Command in order to maximize the operational effectiveness of our service Personnel. The Army Welfare Service has 4 key delivery pillars: Personal Support, Community Support, Information (HIVE) Support and the Joint Service Housing Advice Office.

Contact: 01904 882053/ www.army.mod.uk/personnel-and-welfare

Army Families Federation

The Army Families Federation (AFF) is the independent voice of Army families and works to improve the quality of life for Army families around the world – on any aspect that is affected by the Army lifestyle.

AFF is independent of the Army and offers confidential advice.

AFF is often pivotal in achieving improvements for Army families such as changes to Government and military policy and changes to the delivery of how things are provided for families. AFF's role is to highlight problems to the chain of command or service providers, and to work with them and other agencies to improve the support they provide to Service families.

AFF also provides a signposting service to help find the right person to speak to, as well as providing useful information for Army families through its website and magazine.

Contact: <https://aff.org.uk/about-aff> / 01264 382324

SSAFA

Tri service military charity offering practical and emotional help to all members, current and past, of the armed forces.

Contact: www.ssafa.org.uk / 080073148880