

Useful contacts

Army Welfare Service, York
Garrison
Tel: 01904 882053

2 Signal Regiment Unit Welfare
01904 639867

34 Field Hospital Unit Welfare
01904 442989

AWS Community Support
Development Worker
Tel: 01904 659316

CEAS (Children's Education
Advisory Service
Tel: 01980 618244
Email:

www.gov.uk/guidance/childrens-education-advisory-service

Royal British Legion
Tel: 0808 802 8080

Army Families' Federation (AFF)
www.aff.org.uk

RAF Families Federation
www.raf-ff.org.uk

Naval Families Federation
www.nff.org.uk

City of York Council School
Admissions
Tel: 01904 551554

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Service Families' Liaison Officer
Ebor Academy Trust

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Strensall, York YO32 5UH



Service Families' Liaison Officer



Rebekah Dixon

Supporting Service children, Service families and schools in York

Introduction

We recognise that Service children face unique challenges; frequent moves, changes in home, school and friends, long periods of separation from loved ones and that because of this, at times, some children, and their families, require additional support.

Aims

To help Service children and their parents feel welcomed, valued and secure in their new school and environment.

To understand the impact that military life has on you as a family and never underestimate the effect of frequent changes on your home, family, work and child's education.

To be sensitive to your individual needs.

To provide the necessary support to Service children and their families to facilitate a smooth transition when moving into school and onto new schools.

To be reactive and provide additional support during times of separation and deployment.

To increase support and develop awareness within schools of the unique challenges faced by Service families, so they are equipped to support their Service families.

How can I help?

I was part of the Royal Air Force family for 13 years, experiencing frequent move, challenges and long periods of separation familiar to many of you. I have two children, so have also experienced the impact that being part of the Armed Forces has on them.

I am here to help Service families who feel they need support, and offer a listening ear. It may be that you have concerns about your child or if you are new to the area; need advice or guidance.

I can also act as a bridge between school and the Armed Forces and offer neutral, confidential support, outside the chain of command.

I work closely with agencies outside of the school environment; Armed Forces, Armed Forces charities, welfare organisations and the wider community that may be called upon to support the needs of all Service children, families and schools.

If you would like to contact me, my details can be found overleaf.

Deployment and training

Inevitably, we have families in school where a parent is deployed. We encourage you to make us aware of any periods of family separation either to your child's class teacher or the school office so we can make sure your child is supported where necessary. If you would like additional support during such times, please contact me directly or via school. We're here to support you too.

Postings

If you know you are being posted in the near future please let us know as soon as you can. This allows staff time to prepare books and reports for you to take to your child's new school and also for us to complete some transition work with your child to help prepare them for the move.

Service Pupil Premium

School will always be able to offer bespoke packages of support to your child. The pressure of being a Service family and how that can sometime entail a number of school moves at times causes children to require extra support.

The government anticipates this and so provides schools with some resources to ensure they are adequately catering for your child's wellbeing and academic needs. Please speak to school if you have a specific concern. We encourage you to let your school know that you are a Service family so that this can be noted on the January school census and enable the school to claim the Service Pupil Premium.