



## **How we can help**

We are here to help mitigate the disadvantage that sometimes befalls children of members of the armed forces. Education for children and young people is a vital part of our modern society and we believe that no child should miss out. We aim to support the most disadvantaged children to improve their education that has been compromised or put at risk by their parents' service. We do this without bias of age or ability or purpose, or parental rank or service, be that current or past.

To ensure that service children are given additional support where it is needed, we provide educational grants both to individuals and also, collective grants to education providers with significant numbers of service children.

## **Examples of Collective Grants**

Collective grants are given to schools and education authorities to benefit a group of service children in a school or group of schools where pupil premium has already been committed to other initiatives and additional funding (eg from MOD) is not available.

### **Mayhill Junior School**

Mayhill Junior School is the main feeder school for children whose parents work and live at RAF Odiham in Hampshire. The nature of the work of the service personnel at RAF Odiham means that families are impacted by regular, short notice deployments, which leads to constant disruption to family life.

At Mayhill junior school, the pupil premium was already being used proactively to raise the standard of both education and pastoral care for these pupils. The Trust's grant enabled the school to expand its ELSA (Emotional Learning Support Adviser) support for service pupils as well as training a teacher to run a maths booster programme for these children.

### **Lypiatt School**

Lypiatt Primary School is located within the Services Cotswold Centre, a MoD establishment comprising 61 housing units for families who need temporary accommodation usually related to discharge from the services, family break-up, or bereavement. Families frequently arrive at short notice, with no certainty about their future and often in vulnerable circumstances. There is a constant turnover of pupils joining and leaving the school's two mixed-age classes.

The challenge of the funding the Lypiatt Primary School is not helped by funding being determined by Numbers on Role on census day – a day when, because of the high turnover and constant pupil churn, there might just be a handful of pupils present. The grant provided by the Trust helps to mitigate this by providing funding for additional teaching hours to allow consistency in curriculum delivery.

## **Conference Speakers**

### **Alan Behagg, Chair**

Alan served in the Army for 30 years initially with an infantry battalion where frequent postings meant both his children had to be educated at boarding school. He left the Army as a brigadier for a more dangerous world as the HR director at a major university which he survived for 14 years. He has been with the Trust for two years and took over as Chair in January last year. He is committed to ensuring that the Trust runs effectively and reaches the most number of service pupils, particularly pupils whose parents might not necessarily see education as a main priority. In his spare time, he clerks for governors in a school in north Hampshire where 40% of the pupils are service children.

### **Charmian Hickman, Chief Operating Officer**

Charmian has a good understanding of the issues faced by armed forces families having served as an officer in the Royal Corps of Signals before marrying an Army Air Corps pilot! Since leaving the Army, Charmian has worked for many years in the Tertiary Education and Commercial sectors. As a mother of 3 school age children she also has first-hand experience of the primary and secondary education systems and the funding issues that they are currently facing. Charmian has worked for the Armed Forces Education Trust since 2016 and amongst other things manages the grant application process for both individual and collective grants.

Armed Forces Education Trust, PO Box 684, FARNHAM, GU9 1LP  
Email: [admin@armedforceseducation.org](mailto:admin@armedforceseducation.org)