

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 servicer children are given additional support where it is needed, we provide educational grants both to individuals and we 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.