

**Service Children's Progression**



Welcome to the SCiP Alliance  
Annual Conference

**Leading Together**

The conference will start at 0915

We will be filming and taking photos throughout the day. If you have said you don't want to be photographed your delegate badge should say so; please don't hesitate to point out to anyone filming or photographing you that you have requested that these are not published.

@scipalliance  
#scipconf2021

Lizzie Rodulson

Welcome

Philip Dent, SCiP Alliance Director

@\_phildent

## Leading as an Alliance

Leading Together

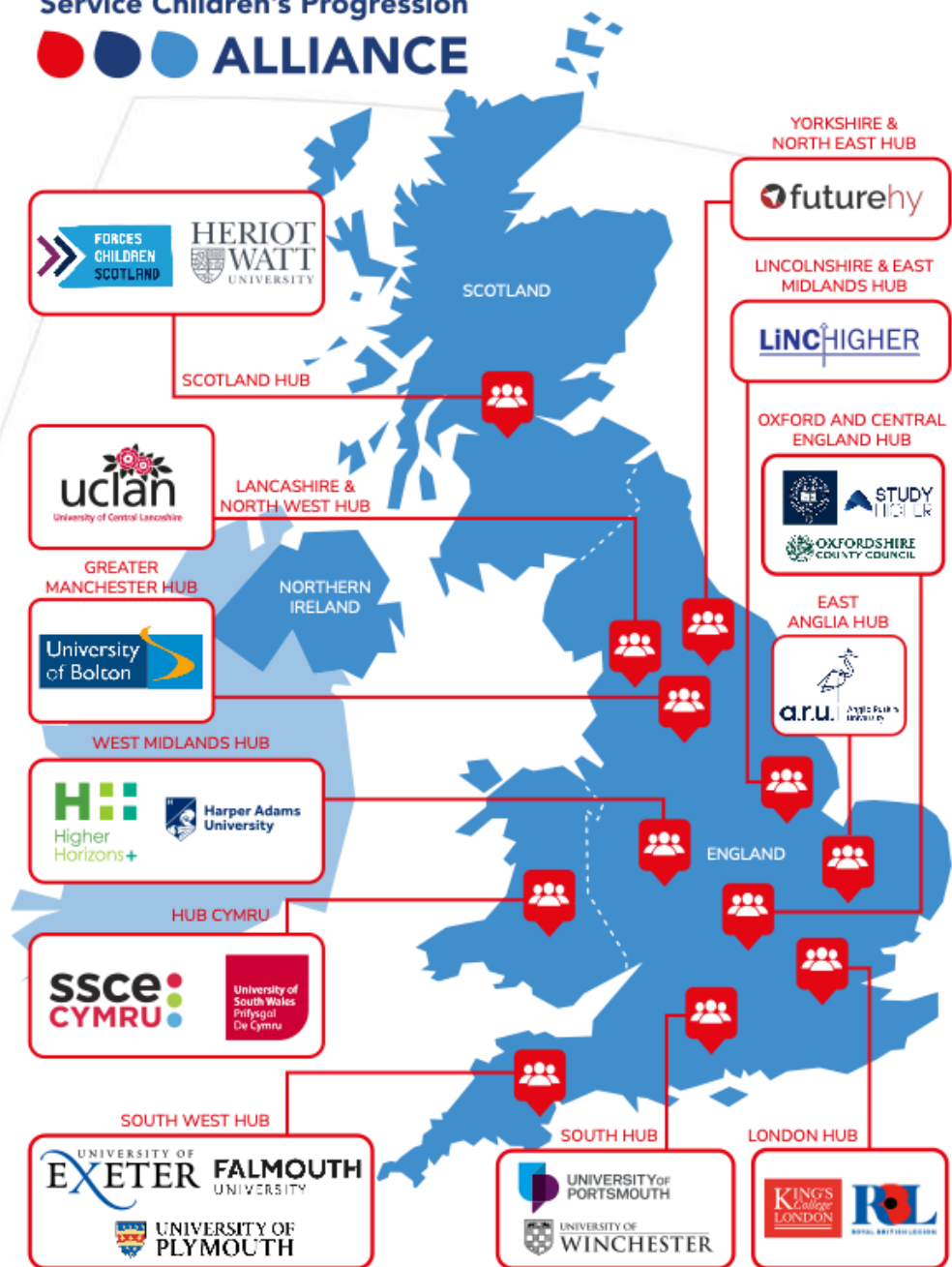
What is it?  
Why is it important?  
How do we do it... really well?

Leading Together

What is it?

Why is it important?

How do we do it... really well?



# What is it?

- 12 Hubs leading a UK-wide network
- Hosted by 21 Hub Leads (including FE, HE, local authorities, charities)
- Engaging with 600+ allies
- To grow the scale and quality of support for Service children throughout the UK

# What is it?

- 7 Uni Connect partnerships (50+ partners) leading a research-to-practice programme
- To bring together researchers, practitioners and policymakers
- To provide evidence-based support
- To over 600 schools (so far) across the UK

**Thriving  
Lives  
toolkit**

helping schools support service children

## WITH THANKS TO

## SERVICE CHILDREN

- Kieron Allen, University of Winchester undergraduate, SCIP Alliance Board member
- Lizzie Rodulson, President, University of Surrey Students' Union

## JULY 2021 SUMMIT DELEGATES

- Department for Education
- Education and Skills Funding Agency
- Farnborough Sixth Form
- Fife College
- Forces Children Scotland (formerly known as the Royal Caledonian Education Trust)
- Higher Horizons
- International Centre for Guidance Studies, University of Derby
- King's Centre for Military Health Research, Kings College London
- National Association for Managers of Student Services
- Ofsted
- Office for Students
- Ministry of Defence
- Rutland County Council
- Southern Universities Network
- Veterans and Families Institute, Anglia Ruskin University
- East Kent Colleges
- Future HY
- University of Surrey Students' Union
- University of Winchester

## SURVEY AND INTERVIEW PARTICIPANTS

across the post-16 and policy sector

## UNI CONNECT PROGRAMME COLLABORATORS AND FUNDERS

- Future HY
- Higher Education Outreach Network
- Higher Horizons
- Next Steps South West
- Southern Universities Network
- Wessex Inspiration Network

## What is it?

- Whole-system approaches to shared challenges
- Where government departments and agencies, education providers, charities, researchers and Service children
- Develop vision for change in uncharted territory

Service Children's Progression  
ALLIANCE

YOUNG PEOPLE FROM  
ARMED FORCES FAMILIES:  
POST-16 EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
TOWARDS A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SERVICE  
CHILDREN'S POST-16 SUCCESS

KATHERINE LAWRENCE  
FACULTY OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY OF WINCHESTER

NOVEMBER 2021



# What is it?

- Evidence-based project design and funding proposals
- Enabling funders, families and post-16 providers
- To work with online mentoring experts
- To pilot enhanced support for isolated 16-19 learners

## Connected Forces Online Community

A safe, fun and supportive community for 16-19-year-olds from military families.

Scan the  
code to  
find out  
more



**Make friends**



**Get careers advice**



**Develop your skills**



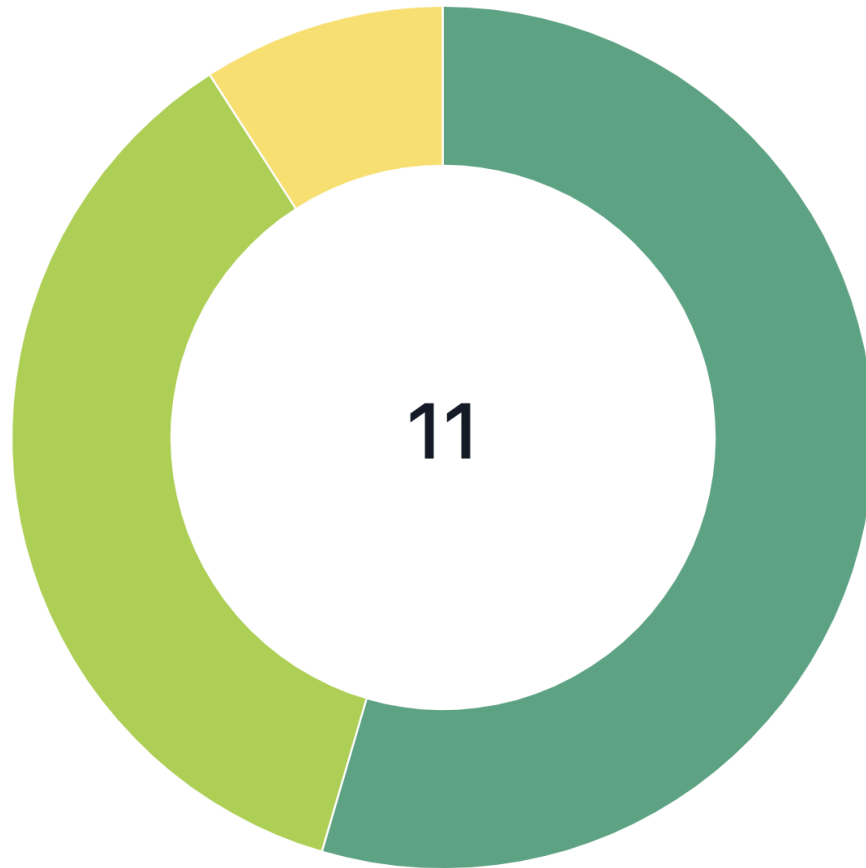
**Have your say**

Service Children's Progression  
 **ALLIANCE**

 **THE ARMED FORCES  
COVENANT FUND TRUST**

  
**brightside**  
BRIGHTER FUTURES FOR ALL

# What is it?



## Current projects by project phase

- Delivery: 6 projects (55%)
- Design: 4 projects (36%)
- Discovery: 1 project (9%)

- An MoD-funded research-practice project
- That became a UK-wide partnership of 100s
- Led by a Board, Practice Group and Hub Leads Group of volunteers
- Supported by 3 part-time staff (adding up to under 2 FTE)
- All working for a single vision of **Thriving Lives for Service Children**

Leading Together

What is it?

Why is it important?

How do we do it... really well?



## THE NEED

### WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE

The children of armed forces personnel have huge potential, but are at risk of underachieving and too few practitioners are equipped and confident to support them.



For example, Service children

- Are less likely to access higher education
- May attain less well, if they move school a lot
- Can experience considerable social and emotional disruption impacting their mental health and wellbeing

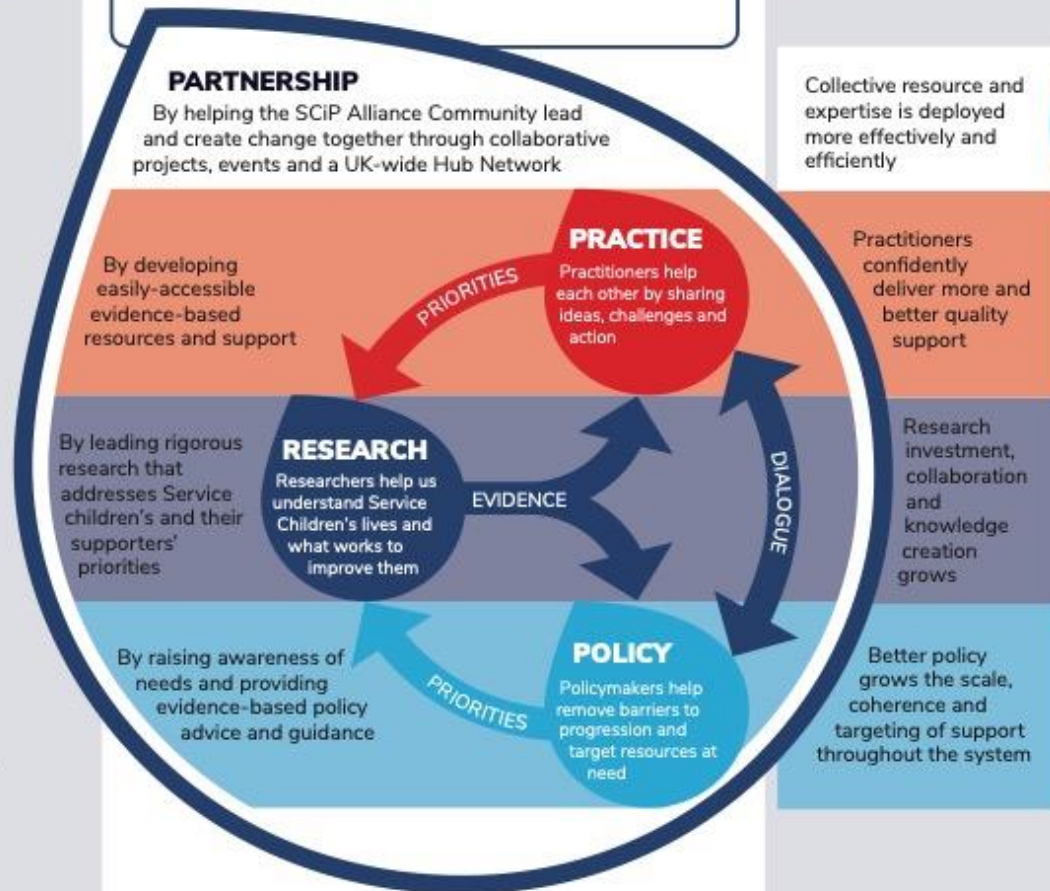
And most professionals in schools, colleges, universities and other organisations:

- Have low awareness of Service children and their lives
- Do not access evidence-based resources and support
- Do not feel confident about providing the right support

## OUR MISSION

### HOW WE MAKE CHANGE

We bring together practitioners, researchers, policymakers and funders to build a stronger evidence-base, better policy, and enhanced support for Service children's education and progression, placing their voices at the heart of all we do.



## OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

## THE IMPACT

### THE CHANGE THAT RESULTS

The scale and quality of support for Service children grows and they have the ambition, skills, and opportunities to make the most of their unique talents and experiences.



## OUR VISION

**Thriving lives for  
Service children**

Leading Together

What is it?

Why is it important?

How do we do it... really well?

How to do **Leading Together**... really well

## **As much a way of working as the work itself**

- Start together
- Start by listening
- Start with values

# Leading Together... start together

- New shared leadership structures



Lead Community consultation, collaboration, action and evaluation so that the whole community

- Is focused on thriving lives for Service children
- Is represented in all its diversity
- Shares in leading the change we want
- Enhances our knowledge and impact
- Highly values the Alliance

Grow the scale and quality of Service children's support throughout the Network by ensuring that

- Delivery is impactful
- Engagement grows
- Communications are consistent
- Collaboration is enhanced
- Hubs and the Network are highly valued.



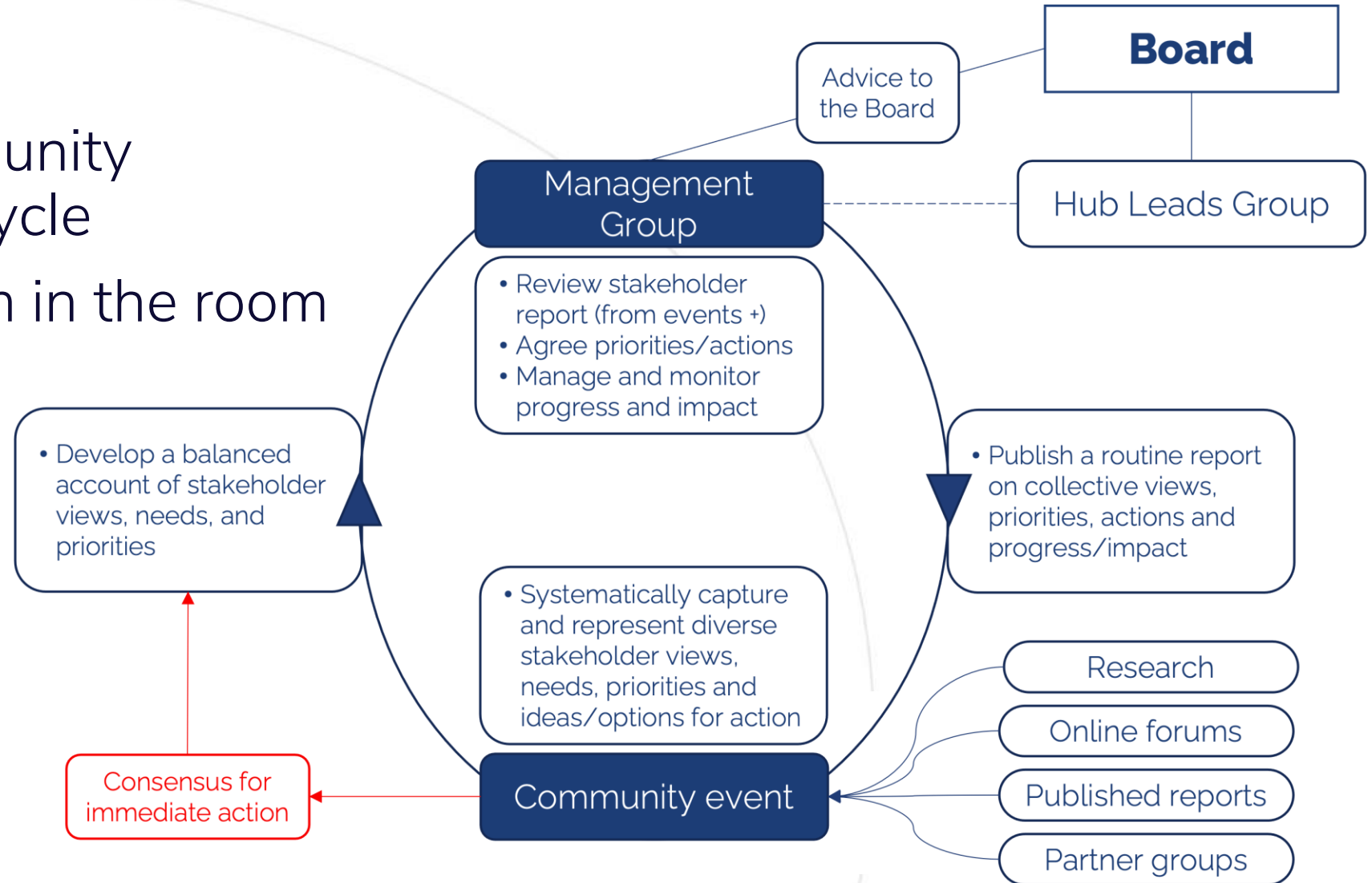
# Leading Together... start together

- New SCiP Alliance Community – online platform in 2022
  - Collaboration and networking space
  - Member-led groups
- Join the Management Group steering delivery of Community priorities
  - December 2021 window
- Membership reflects the Community and demonstrates
  - Diversity
  - Inclusivity
  - Collaboration
  - Transparency
  - Focus on Service children



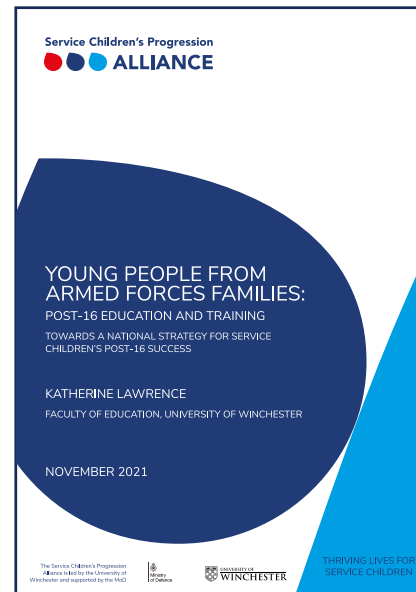
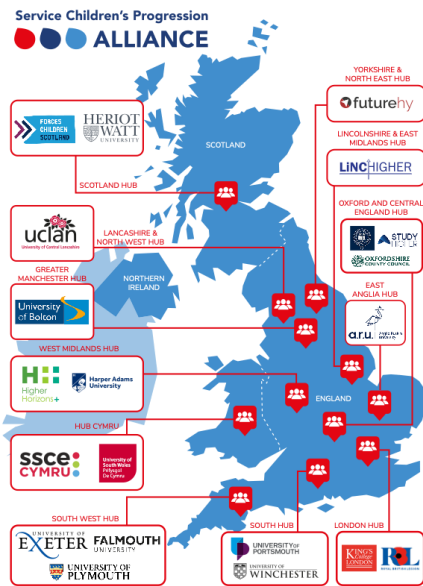
# Leading Together... start by listening

- Annual Community consultation cycle
- Whole-system in the room event
- Service child voice project



# Leading Together... start with values

- SCiP Alliance values will be developed within the themes for the 2022 consultation cycle



## Connected Forces Online Community

A safe, fun and supportive community for 16-19-year-olds from military families.

Scan the code to find out more



- ✓ Make friends
- ✓ Get careers advice
- ✓ Develop your skills
- ✓ Have your say

Service Children's Progression  
ALLIANCE

THE ARMED FORCES  
COVENANT FUND TRUST

brightside

Dr Claire Lee, Research Fellow, Oxford Brookes University

@ ServicechildPhD

## Leading with Service Children's Voices: Principles into Practice

# Service Children's Voice: Principles into Practice

Dr Claire Lee  
Oxford Brookes University  
[clairelee@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:clairelee@brookes.ac.uk)



- Background – why Service children's voice is important
- Thinking about communication
- 4-part framework with examples



# Background

– why Service children's voice is important



A	B	C	D	etc
1	2	3	4	...

$$C + H + R + I + S + T + M + A + S =$$
$$3 + 8 + 18 + 9 + 19 + 20 + 13 + 1 + 19 = 110$$

# Background

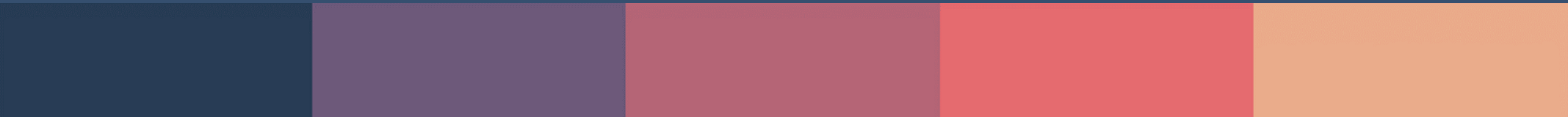
– why Service children's voice is important

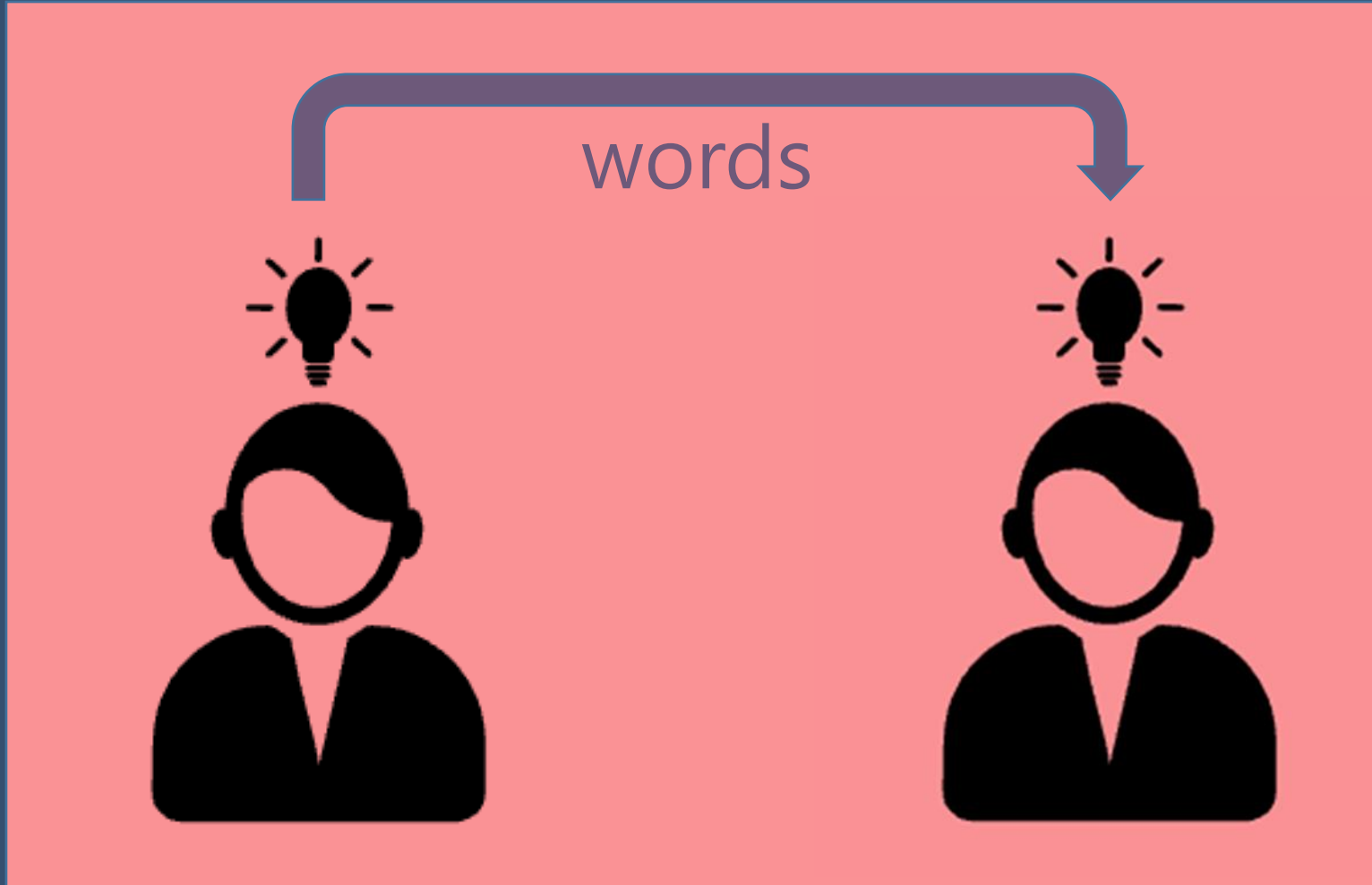


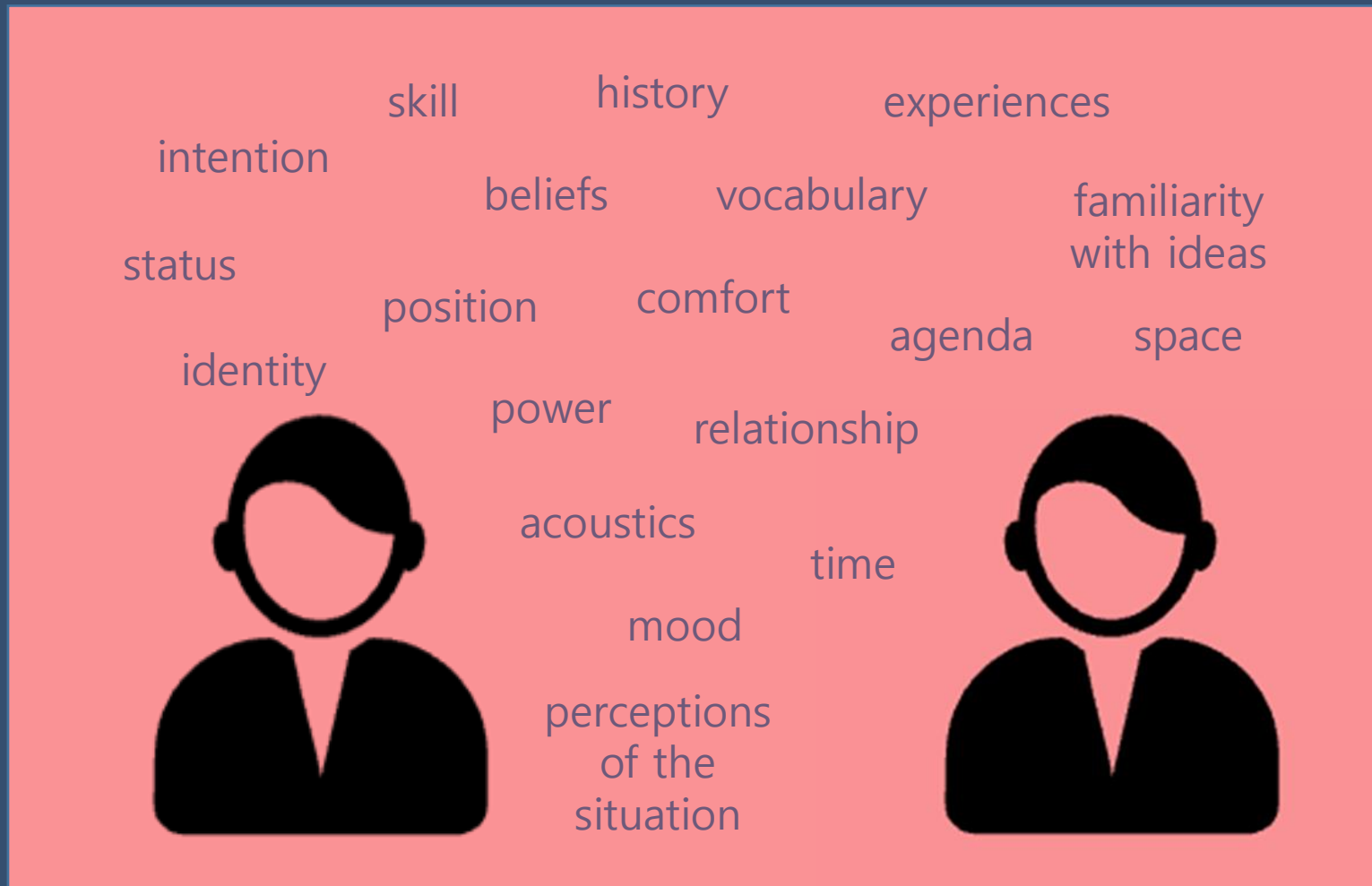
No-one in my  
class understands  
what it is like to  
be a service child.



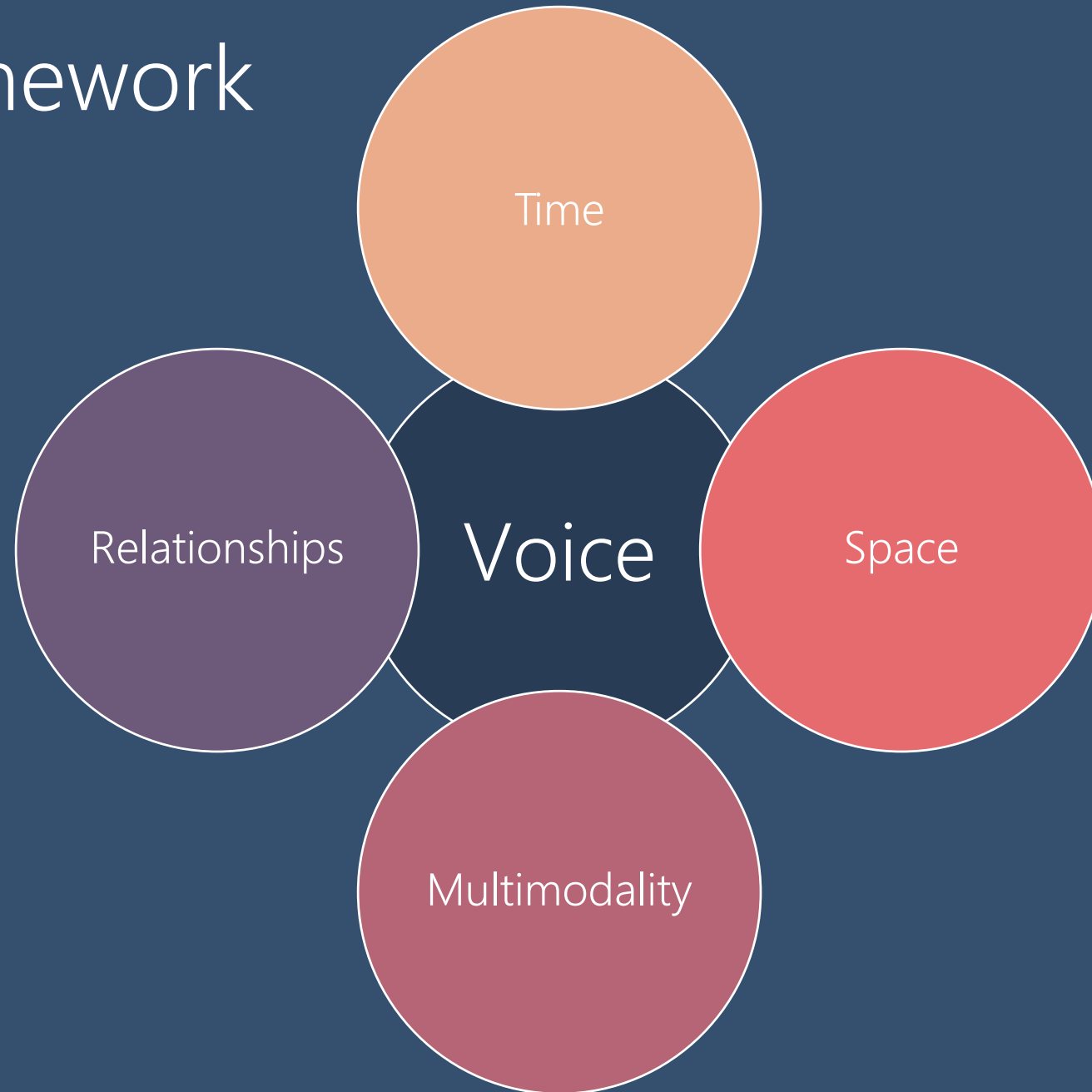
# Thinking about communication

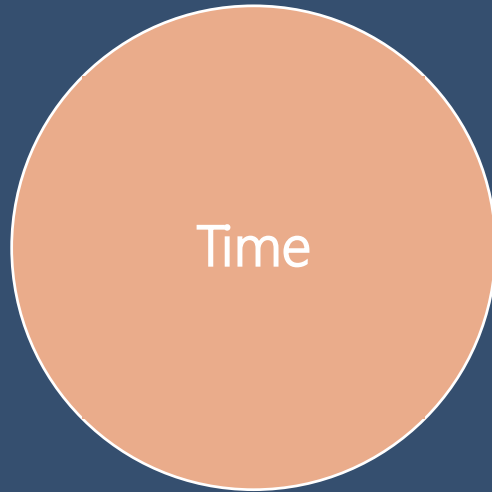






# 4 part framework





Beyond snapshots

Expectations and behaviours

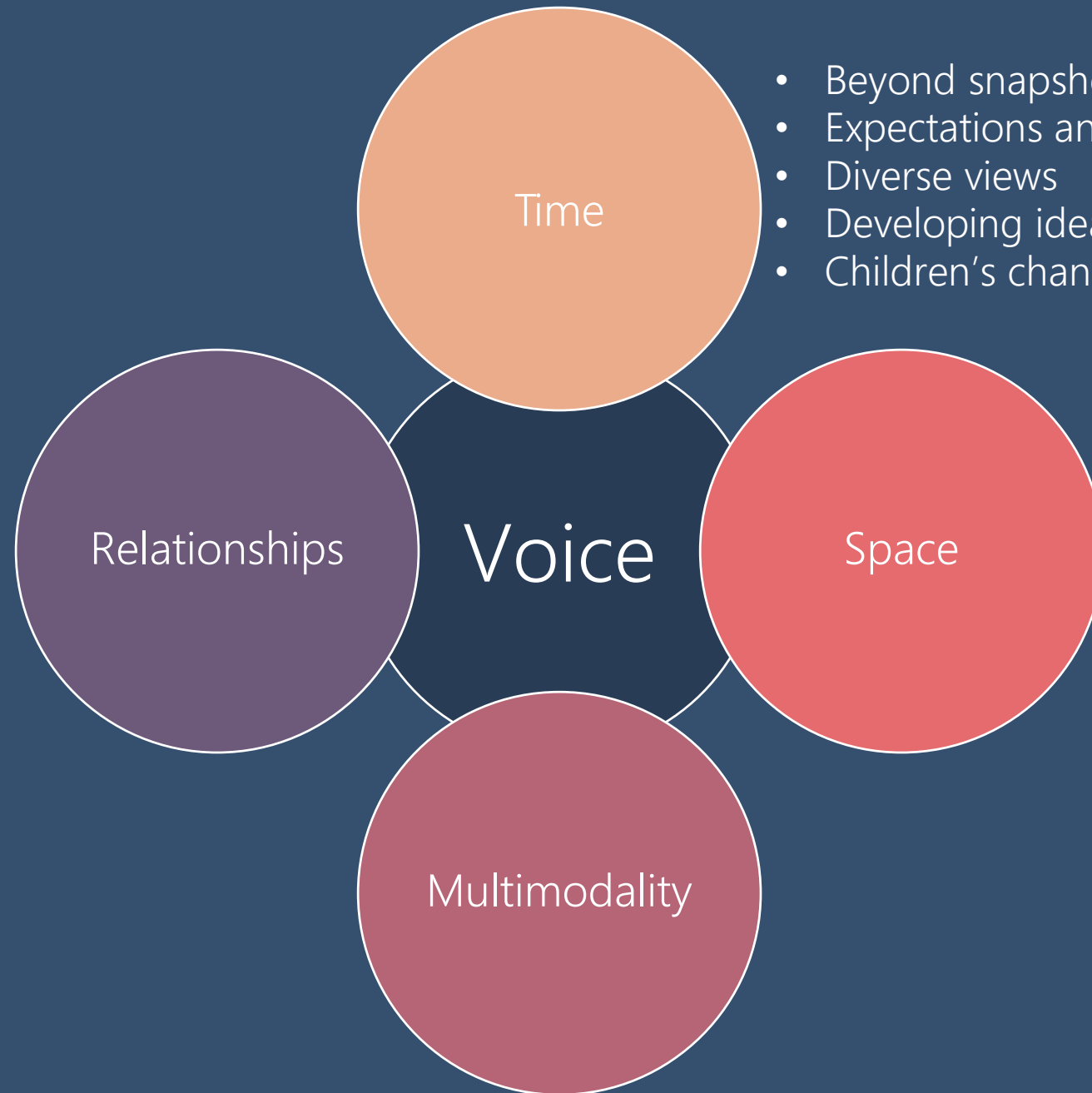
Diverse views

Developing ideas over time

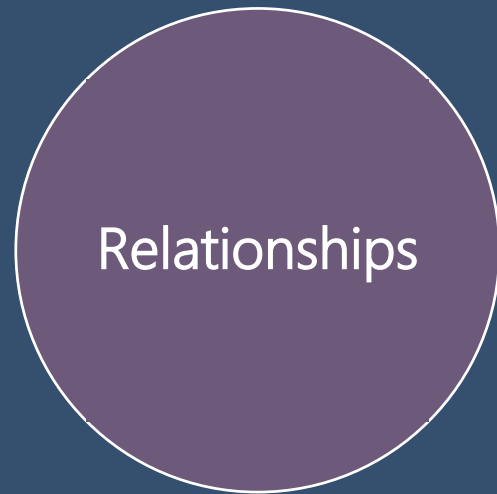
Children's changing situations

"Under the Radar" project  
9 service children  
Ages 8-11  
5 weeks

"Not just a school day" project  
8 service children  
Ages 8-11  
14 months



- Beyond snapshots
- Expectations and behaviours
- Diverse views
- Developing ideas over time
- Children's changing situations



Power dynamics

Whose agenda?

Care and listening

Knowledge of children

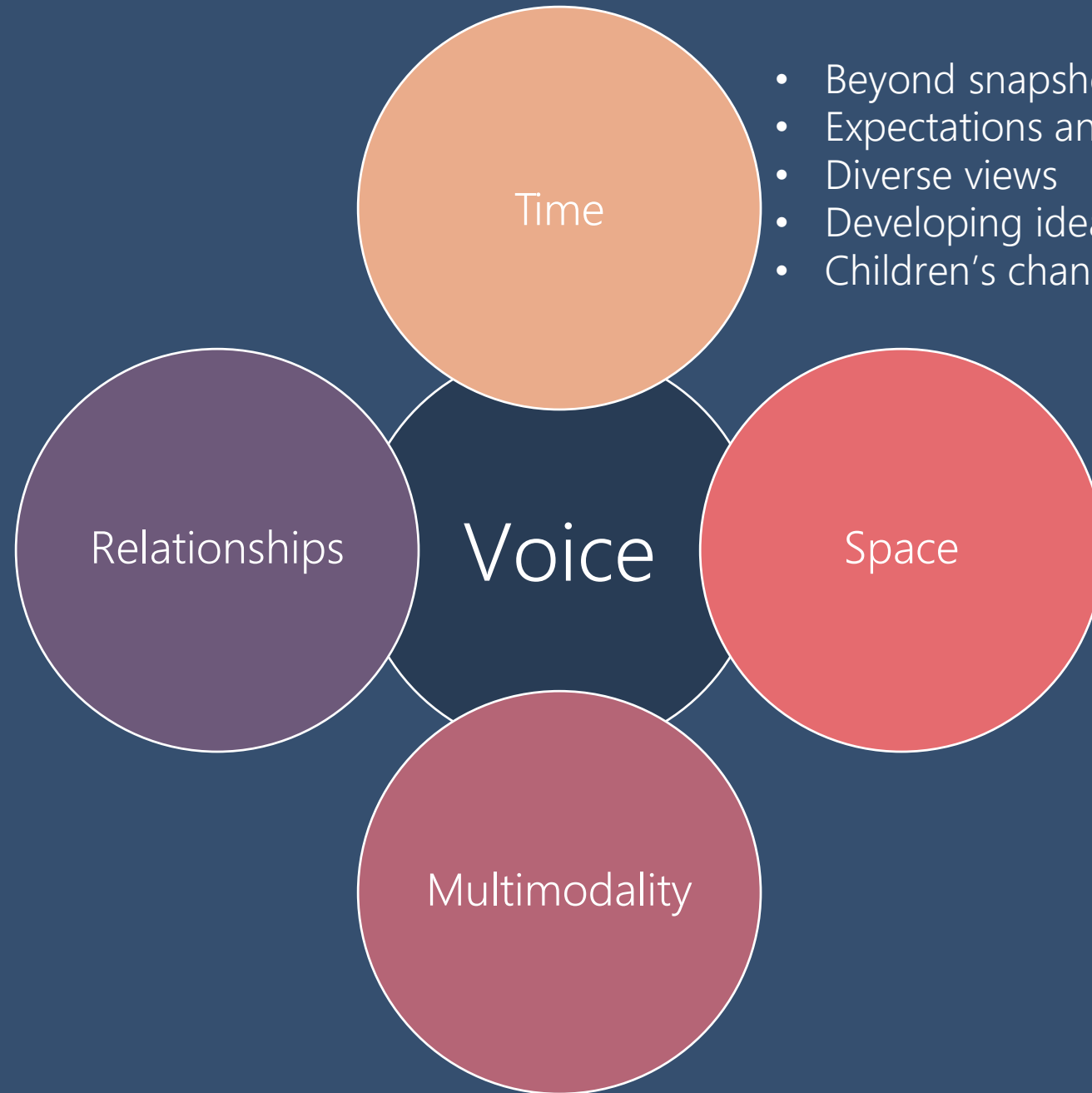
Choice

# Relationships

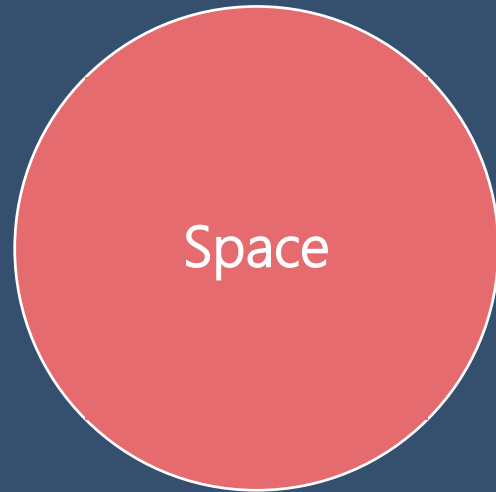




- Power dynamics
- Knowledge of children
- Care and listening
- Control
- Choice



- Beyond snapshots
- Expectations and behaviours
- Diverse views
- Developing ideas over time
- Children's changing situations



Expectations, power, control

Relationships

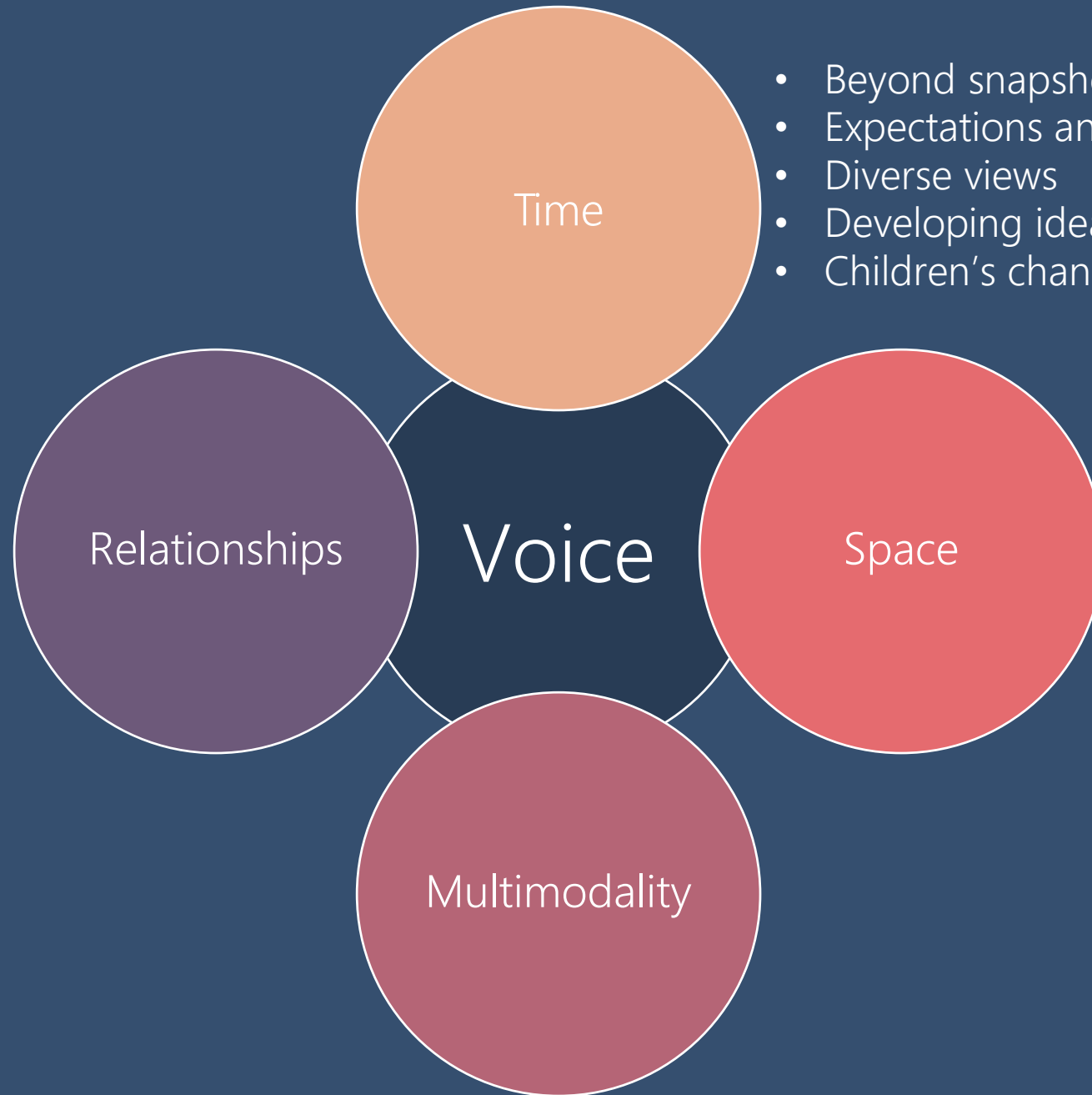
Pros and cons of different spaces

Organisation of space

# Space



- Power dynamics
- Knowledge of children
- Care and listening
- Control
- Choice



Time

- Beyond snapshots
- Expectations and behaviours
- Diverse views
- Developing ideas over time
- Children's changing situations

Space

- Expectations, power, control
- Relationships
- Pros and cons of different spaces
- Organisation of space

Multimodality

Relationships



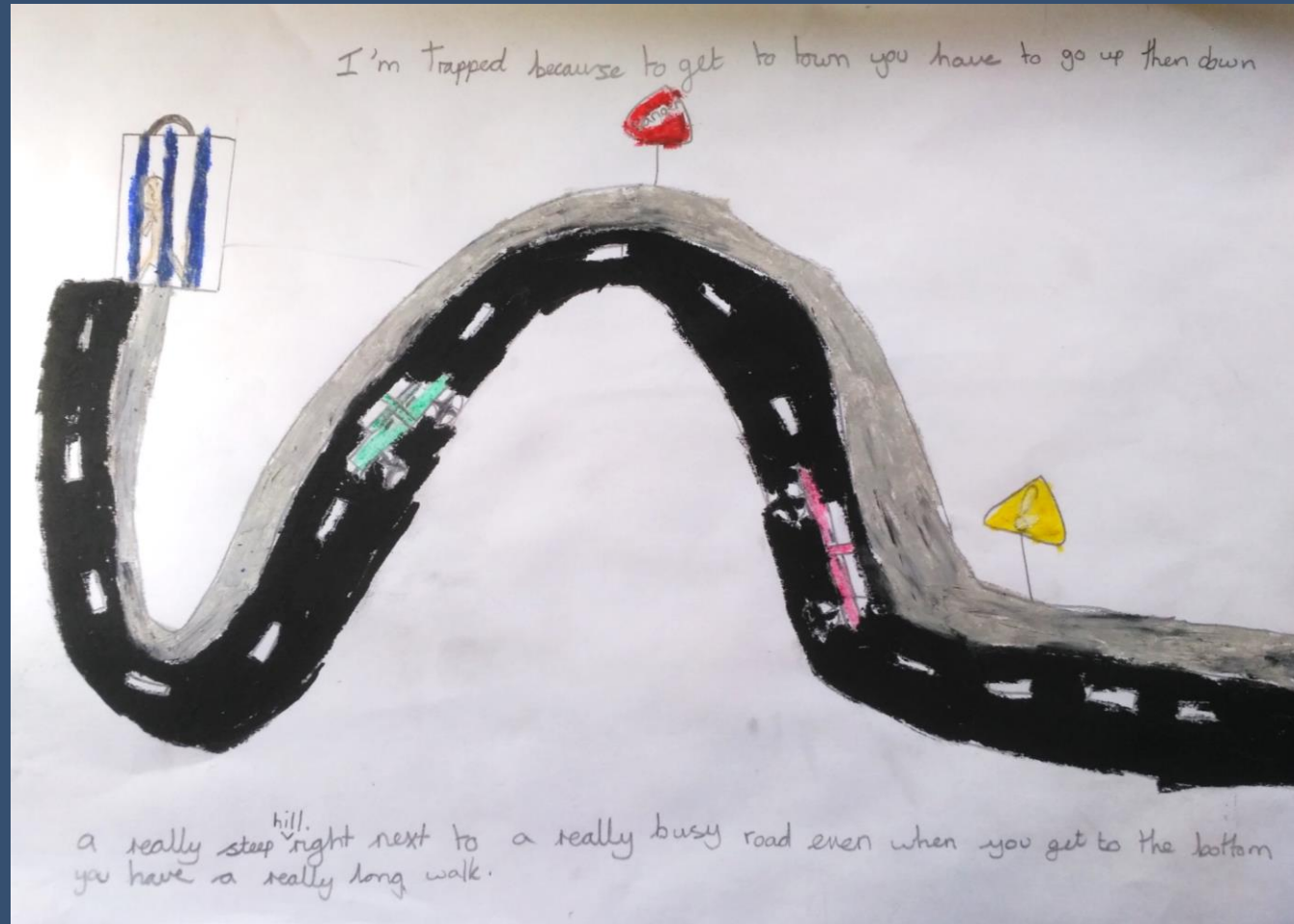
Beyond language

Using or making objects

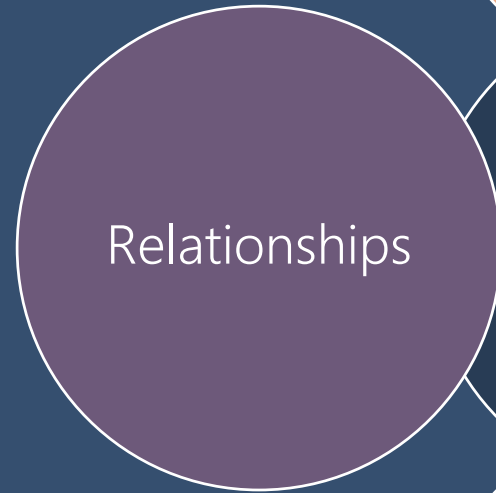
Support in exploring and articulating complex ideas

Control and choice

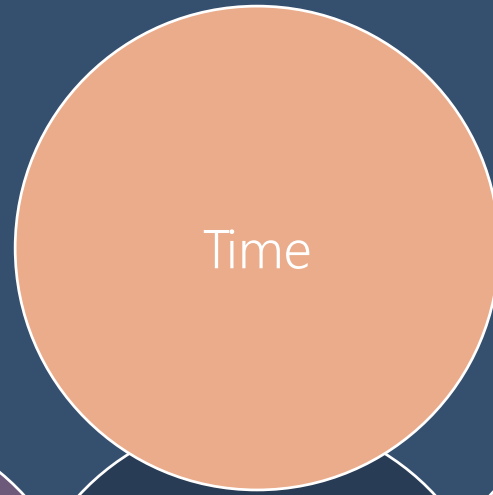
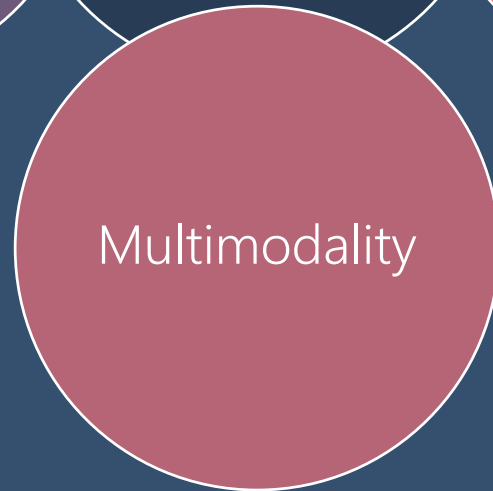
# Multimodality



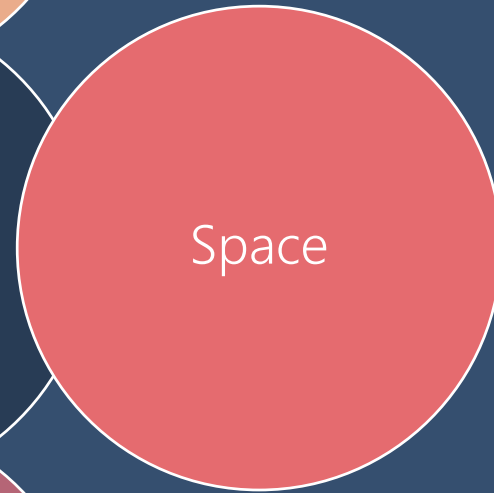
- Power dynamics
- Knowledge of children
- Care and listening
- Control
- Choice



- Beyond language
- Using or making objects
- Support in exploring and articulating complex ideas
- Control and choice



- Beyond snapshots
- Expectations and behaviours
- Diverse views
- Developing ideas over time
- Children's changing situations



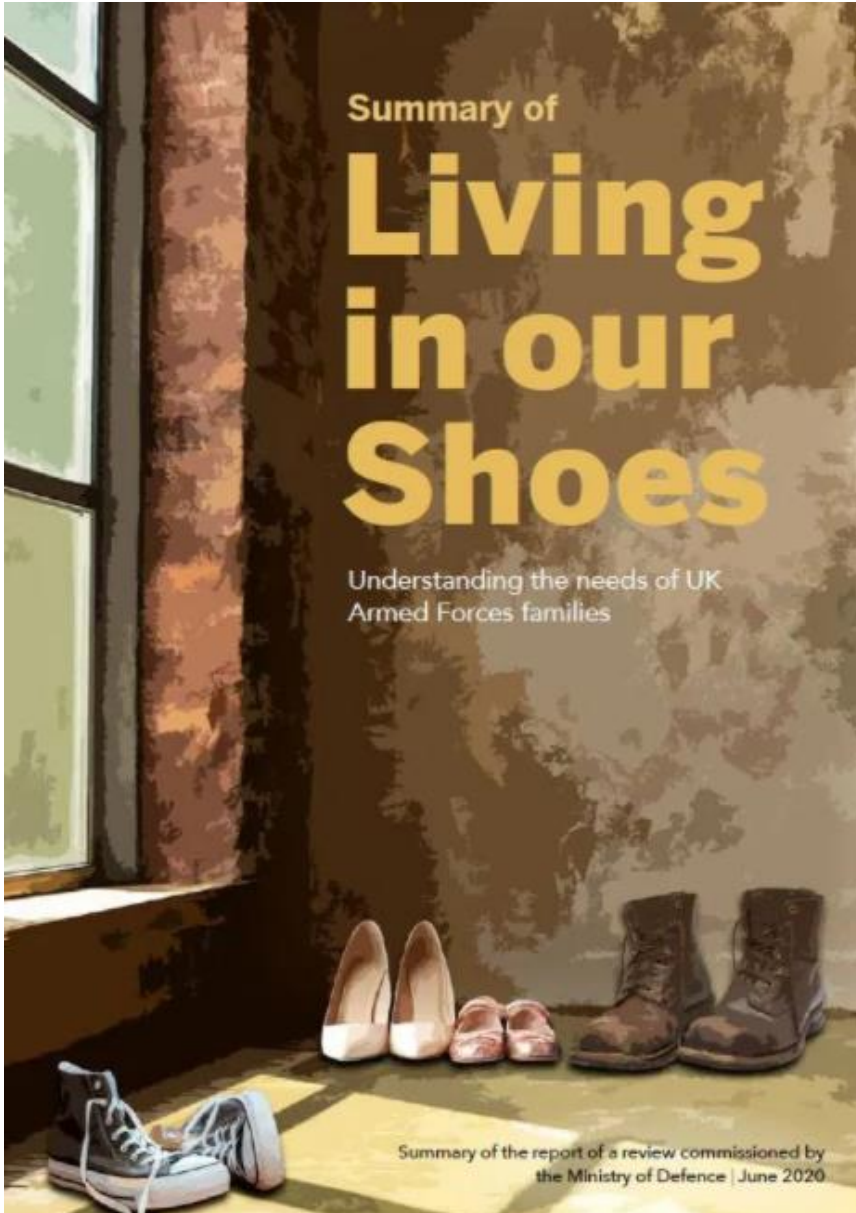
- Signals
- Power, control
- Pros and cons of different spaces
- Organisation of space

Voice

DR GABRIELA MISCA  
Senior Lecturer in Psychology, University of Worcester

**Leading for Sustainable Change: The “Living in Our Shoes” Review - from recommendations to priorities,**





# Leading for Sustainable Change: From recommendations to priorities

**Dr Gabriela Misca and Professor Janet Walker**

---

**SCiP Alliance National Conference**

**Nov 2021**

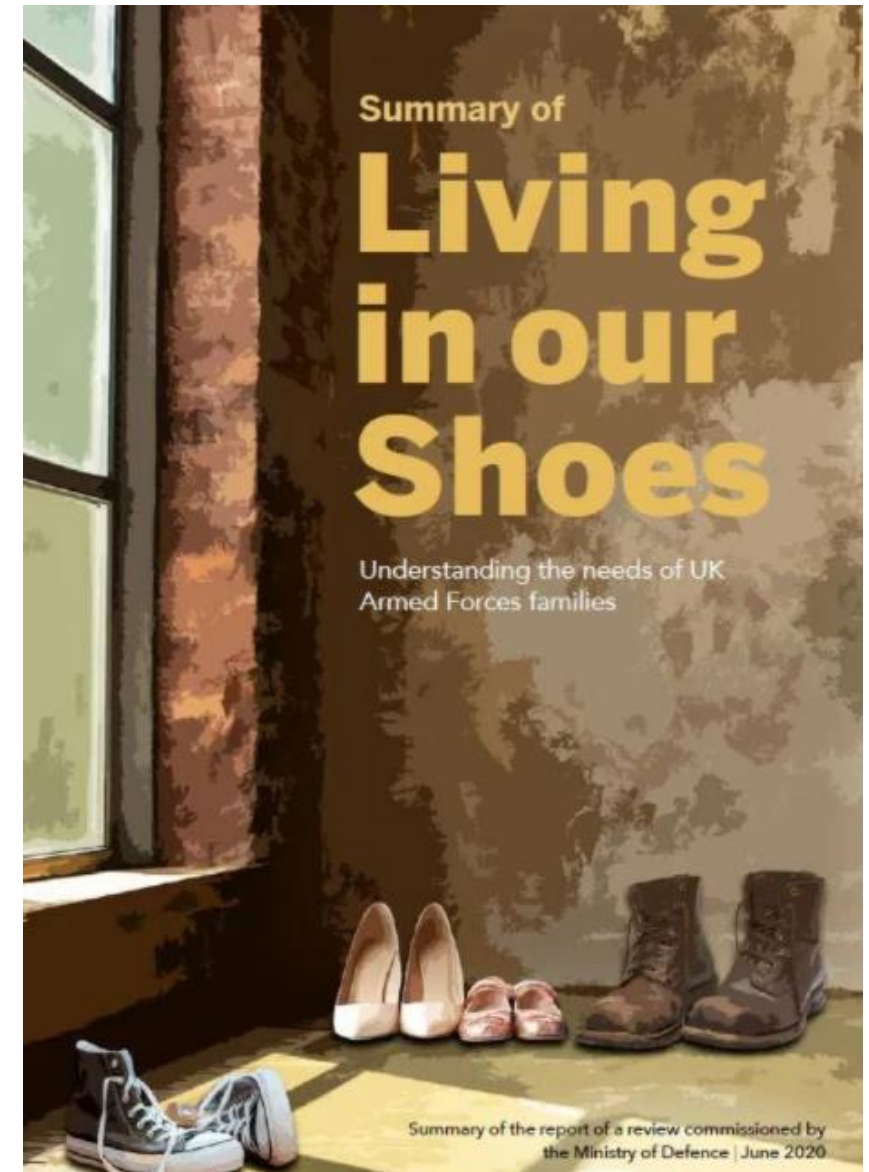
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/living-in-our-shoes-understanding-the-needs-of-uk-armed-forces-families>

# Thank you!

- We look forward to collaborating with academic colleagues, practice partners, colleagues in the three Services, and the MOD to ensure better support and care for Service personnel, their partners and their children as the Families Strategy unfolds
- Contact:
  - ✓ Dr Gabriela Misca: [g.misca@worc.ac.uk](mailto:g.misca@worc.ac.uk)

➤ **Reminder – how to cite the report:**

Walker, J., Selous, A. and Misca, G. (2020) *Living in our shoes: understanding the needs of UK armed forces families*. Ministry of Defence, London.



# Leading Together – table discussions

1. Where has leading together been most effective in your experience (e.g. with Service children or partners in practice, research or policy, or as a whole system)?
2. Thinking about what has been most effective to date, what would help us grow the scale and quality of our shared leadership with and for Service children? (e.g. in practice, research or policy, or as a whole system)?

Service Children's Progression



Break: 1100 – 1115

@scipalliance  
#scipconf2021

# Panel discussion

Chair: Lizzie Rodulson

- **Russell Collier**, Principal Education Officer, Armed Forces Families & Safeguarding, MOD
- **Steph Fawdry**, Headteacher, RAF Benson Community Primary School and Chair of SCISS
- **Kath Lawrence**, Head of Operations, SCiP Alliance
- **Anna Hutchinson**, Education & Childcare Specialist, Army Families Federation
- **Morgan McArthur**, University of Sheffield Students' Union Officer and military child
- **Clare Scherer**, Chief Executive, Naval Children's Charity
- **Graham Short**, Professional Adviser, Association of Directors of Education in Scotland
- **Ant Sutcliffe**, Head of Higher Horizons Uni Connect Programme



	WORKSHOPS - 1315	LOCATION
A	<p>LEADING TOGETHER POST-16</p> <p>Louisa Dobson, Programme Manager, FutureHY Uni Connect Polly Harrow, Assistant Principal, Kirklees College and Chair of NAMSS Kath Lawrence, SCiP Alliance, Head of Operations</p> <p>This workshop will explore recent research around working with post-16 institutions, launch the SCiP Alliance's report (Young People from Armed Forces Families: Post-16 Education and Training) and hear the view from colleges.</p> <p>In this workshop you will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explore recent research characterising the context for young people from military families post-16</li> <li>2. Understand the diverse views from the college sector</li> <li>3. Explore together how you might work with colleges to support young people from military families' educational progression</li> <li>4. Identify key messages for researchers, policy makers and practitioners.</li> </ol>	INNOVATE
B	<p>FORCES CHILDREN SCOTLAND: CO-PRODUCTION WITH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE</p> <p>Chris Paul, Children and Family Services Manager, Forces Children Scotland Cara Pley, Digital Worker, Forces Children Scotland</p> <p>This workshop will look at our co-production model and have a focus on our Your Mind Matters programme. We will discuss how we have been able to work alongside young people and the positive aspect of this type of support while looking at some of the challenges along the way. We will share the voices of our young people and how they have felt in the process.</p> <p>In this workshop you will learn about:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The benefits and challenges of co-production with children and young-people</li> <li>2. What our young people tell us and why it is important</li> <li>3. How the Your Mind Matters project will support the mental health of young people from military families</li> </ol>	DEVELOP
C	<p>EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES OF SERVICE CHILDREN: MOBILITY, SEPARATION, DEPLOYMENT</p> <p>Rebecca Lovell, Naval Families Federation Anna Hutchinson, Army Families Federation Alexandra Stokes, RAF Families Federation</p> <p>This workshop will help you understand life in Armed Forces families:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Challenges and opportunities that Service children might face in education and how Service children and young people are not a homogenous group</li> <li>2. The role of the Families Federations</li> <li>3. How those involved in education can support the challenges and opportunities service children may encounter.</li> </ol>	IMAGINE

After lunch – a choice of

workshops

	WORKSHOPS - 1430	LOCATION
D	<p>LISTENING TO SERVICE CHILDREN: USING RESEARCH FINDINGS TO REFLECT ON PRACTICE</p> <p>Dr Georgina Normile, Senior Lecturer in Primary Education, Bath Spa University Dr Claire Lee, Research Fellow, Oxford Brookes University</p> <p>Georgina and Claire will share insights gained from their extensive research with Service children and offer delegates opportunities for reflection and discussion. Practitioners working with Service children of all ages, especially younger children, will be challenged to extend their thinking about children's voice and take away ideas to further develop their practice in their own settings.</p> <p>In this workshop you will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gain insight from recent research with Service children in the UK context</li> <li>2. Find space to reflect on and extend thinking about children's voice within your own practice</li> </ol>	INNOVATE
E	<p>CREATIVE FORCES DAY EVENTS - A SHARED EXPERIENCE: HOW WE WORKED COLLABORATIVELY TO PLAN &amp; DELIVER</p> <p>Jessica Darnell, Strategic Projects Manager, LiNCHigher Uni Connect Louisa Dobson, Programme Manager, FutureHY Uni Connect Izzy Tooke, Communications Officer, FutureHY Uni Connect</p> <p>Three Uni Connect hubs collaborated to bring students from primary and secondary schools together in an online, interactive Creative Forces Day.</p> <p>In this workshop you will learn:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Logistical planning - hear how we planned and organised the events from inception to delivery.</li> <li>2. Collaborative working - we will share best practice on working together to develop new activity.</li> <li>3. Learner voice - we will share what we learned from the young people who participated in our events to help inform future practice.</li> </ol>	DEVELOP
F	<p>WHAT SCHOOLS TELL US ABOUT SERVICE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION</p> <p>Millie Taylor, SSCE Cymru Programme Manager, Welsh Local Government Association Steph Fawdry, Headteacher, RAF Benson Community Primary School and Chair of Service Children in State Schools National Executive Advisory Committee (SCISS NEAC)</p> <p>Find out how SCISS, through the "Voice of Schools" project and SSCE Cymru, through the 'Cymru stakeholder consultation project', have listened to schools in England and Wales, and responded to what they have told us.</p> <p>In this workshop you will learn:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What schools have told us about their Service children's experiences</li> <li>2. What schools have found challenging in supporting Service children</li> <li>3. What schools have identified as good practice in supporting Service children.</li> </ol>	IMAGINE

**Service Children's Progression**



Lunch: 1230 – 1315

@scipalliance  
#scipconf2021

# Lizzie Rodulson and Morgan McArthur

## In conversation with Service children



Lizzie Rodulson

## Closing reflections

# Thriving Lives for Service Children

Service Children's Progression



Tell us what you think

Join a Hub

Subscribe / follow

**Have a safe journey home**