

Children of Services Families

Whitecross School is proud to support the children and families of serving forces personnel. Currently Whitecross has between 35 and 45 children registered as having a parent or step-parent in the armed forces. When it is not detrimental to the running of the school we would always seek to offer a place to a services child relocating to our area.

Schools are entitled to claim a Service Pupil Premium of £300 (for Academic Year 2014/15) for every child who is registered with the school as being the child of regular armed forces personnel; this is part of the Armed Forces Covenant first published in May 2011.

The criteria for the child to be a 'services child' are:

- one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces,
- one of their parents served in the regular armed forces in the last 3 years,
- one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces and the pupil is in receipt of a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) and the War Pensions Scheme (WPS).

Children are still eligible if they no longer live with the parent who is serving in the armed forces or was serving within the armed forces within the last three years. They remain eligible if the parents are separated or divorced.

In order to enable the school to claim the Service Pupil Premium for your child you simply need to advise us that your child fulfils one of the above criteria.

More importantly by alerting us, we are able to provide more effective support in school. We treat Services Children as a 'vulnerable group'; which means they are monitored and supported more closely to ensure that they are able to make effective progress at school.

The information recorded by the school regarding services status is protected and the data regarding individual children is not shared outside the school.

Support Available in school

The services premium is not allocated to an individual student. Its purpose is to enable the school to enhance its pastoral provision to ensure the care and wellbeing of services children. At Whitecross we use the funds we receive to increase the provision of qualified counsellors and to provide more time for Learning Managers to support individual students and liaise with families.

Other sources of support outside of school:

Children's Education and Advisory Service (CEAS)

Website: www.gov.uk/childrens-education-advisory-service

Telephone: 01980 618244

Military: 943448244

Email: enquiries@ceas.uk.com

Hereford HIVE

Blog: herefordhive.blogspot.com

Telephone: 01432 357311 x 2240

Military: 94475 2240

Mobile: 07826530674

Email: herefordhive@armymail.mod.uk