

# SERVICE FAMILIES NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2024



Did you know that  
1 in 10 schools,  
nationally, have  
Service children?

53 out of the 64  
schools in York  
have at least 1  
Service child.

## Increasing awareness & understanding of Service children

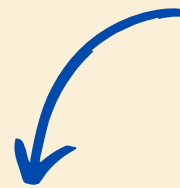


The York Service Pupil Network is held once a term by the City of York Council and the Service Families Liaison Officer.

This is an opportunity for Headteachers and other members of staff in schools who act as Service Children Advocates, the military and other professionals supporting/working with Service children and the wider military community, to come together and discuss lots of different things including, for example, receiving local and national updates about work and research to increase the awareness of and support for Service children in schools or projects that support Service children and the military community.



Supporting Service Children  
across York



You can now find me on social  
media:

**Service Families Liaison Officer**





[servicechildrenschampion@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:servicechildrenschampion@northyorks.gov.uk)



# Brand new event





servicechildrenschampion@northyorks.gov.uk



Contact us at  
our email  
address



# Event



## Service Children Awards 2024

This brand new event will take place during the Month of the Military Child. We are seeking nominations from all of you who work with Service children. Who do you think deserves some special recognition and an opportunity to shine?

The awards will take place on Thursday 25th April at The Garden Rooms, Tennants, Leyburn. We will be having a very special afternoon tea with the nominees and their families. We have already received some lovely nominations but please share the link with your staff members and school community and encourage them to get nominating!

## Award Categories

- Inspirational Service Child of the year.
- Service Children's Advocate of the year.
- Service Children Friendly School of the year.
- Caring Champion.
- Musical Champion.
- Sporting Champion.
- Community Champion.
- Creative Champion.
- Service Children Friendly Club/Group

Scan this QR Code to  
complete the Service  
Children Awards  
nomination form...







*Service Children*

*Awards*

*2024*

*Complete this online nomination form  
by 21st March to have your voice heard*

# WHAT'S ON?

**ARMY WELFARE SERVICE**



Scan QR code to register for sessions



## PLAY SESSIONS

For Service children aged 5 - 10 years

Strensall: Tuesdays 5.00pm - 6.30pm

Fulford: Thursdays 5.15pm - 6.45pm



Arts & crafts



Sports



Games



Baking



Messy play



Imaginative play

Fun activities    Make friends    Try new things  
Supports well-being    Supports learning

## YOUTH CLUB

For Service young people aged 11 - 16 years

Strensall: Tuesday 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Fulford: Wednesdays 5.30pm - 7.00pm



Pool



Arts & crafts



Sports



Baking

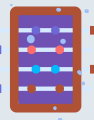
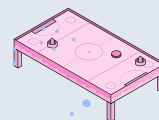


Table football



Air hockey



Table tennis



Trips

*Somewhere to go    Something to do    Someone to talk to  
Make friends    Fun activities    Supports well-being  
Try new things    Learn new skills*

*Young people can bring a non-Service friend with them.*

Sessions cost £1 and there is also a tuck shop selling sweets. Please contact Michael Bailey, AWS Community Development Worker, for more formation. Email: michael.bailey124@mod.gov.uk Tel: 077 6700 8982

### Locations:

- **Strensall:** Hurst Hall Community Centre, Border Road YO32 5SR
- **Fulford:** Low Moor Centre, Bray Road, YO10 4JG



### Army Welfare Playgroup

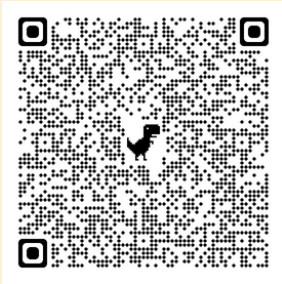
Mondays 9.30am-11.30am - Low Moor Community Centre YO10 4JG

This session is for parents and Under 5s

There is small contribution of £1 per family towards activities. New families are always welcome to attend.



# HALF TERM FUN!



## Pancake Day



Tuesday, 13th February - 12.15pm  
FREE event - everyone welcome  
Low Moor Community Centre (Imphal Barracks)

Please email [michael.bailey124@mod.gov.uk](mailto:michael.bailey124@mod.gov.uk) with the names of everyone who'll be taking part and any food allergies for catering purposes



### THE GREAT ESCAPE PROJECT

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th February 2024  
Eden Camp Museum, Malton, North Yorkshire, UK

# NRM NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM





# FREE!

**WARNING: THIS COURSE CHANGES LIVES!**

Are you a spouse/partner of someone Serving in the UK Armed Forces?

Are you wanting a bit more out of life  
Do you want to improve your career or job prospects  
Are you thinking of starting your own business  
Wondering what job or business could move with you

**This unique 10 week course could be for you!**

**Only 20 places nationwide**

- Personalised to you with 1:1 support
- Cohort 5 starts April 2024
- Cohort 6 starts September 2024
- Online Tuesdays at 1pm (1.5 hours)
- Professional Certified Coach (PCC) with the International Coaching Federation (ICF)

**Want to find out more?**

For details of who the course is for, what the course covers and how to apply, scan the QR code or visit:  
[warwickshire.gov.uk/spousedevdevelopmentcourse](http://warwickshire.gov.uk/spousedevdevelopmentcourse)

Warwickshire County Council | PCC | THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT FUND TRUST


## Armed Forces Covenant Spouse Development Course

This FREE 10-week, online personal development programme has been designed specifically for spouses, civil or long term partners of serving personnel in the UK Armed Forces. It will allow spouses/partners the opportunity to consider the best way forward for both them and their families, improve their employment opportunities and/or consider their potential in developing their own business.

The course is funded and developed for spouses, civil or long term partners of serving personnel in recognition of the barriers they can face in job, career and business opportunities.

## Wraparound childcare changes

The way you register and claim for wraparound childcare is changing from 19 February. There will be a temporary freeze on registrations from 31 January to 19 February. However, if the Service person registers between 19 February and the end of March they'll be able to backdate their registration to 1 February, subject to eligibility.

For more details see Discover My Benefits   
<http://discovermybenefits.mod.gov.uk/.../wraparound.../>



## Little Troopers Therapy Programme

Little Trooper's Therapy Programme in England that supports the mental health and wellbeing of children whose parents serve in the British Armed Forces.

The tri-service Little Troopers Therapy Programme offers free one-to-one psychotherapy sessions in a programme and community therapy groups for older forces children who feel particularly impacted specifically by the challenges that military life can bring, such as having a parent deployed or moving home and school frequently.

There is also an on-demand session available for parents, to help them better support their children at home.



Scan QR codes to find out more information



# USEFUL CONTACTS

## 2 Signals Regiment

UWO Capt Chris Loynes  
SSgt Martin Brand

Tel: 01904 639867



[welfare2signals@hotmail.com](mailto:welfare2signals@hotmail.com)

## 21 Multi-Role Medical Regiment

WO2 Nikki Robson

Email: [21MMR-RHQ-WELFARE-0MAILBOX@MOD.GOV.UK](mailto:21MMR-RHQ-WELFARE-0MAILBOX@MOD.GOV.UK)

Tel: 01904 442989

(Out of hours welfare please call the guardroom on 01904 442864 and ask for the Duty Welfare Officer)

Unit Welfare Clerk

Mrs Susan Wilson

Email: [34Hosp-rhq-welfare-clerk@mod.gov.uk](mailto:34Hosp-rhq-welfare-clerk@mod.gov.uk)

34 Field Hospital Welfare Office  
Request for Contact



Beccy Dixon

Service Families Liaison  
Officer



07895 202551



[r.dixon@ebor.adademy](mailto:r.dixon@ebor.adademy)



## Army Welfare Service

For all Personal Support enquiries and referrals please contact the Intake and Assessment Team (the AWS welfare single point of contact) at:

[RC-AWS-IAT-0Mailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:RC-AWS-IAT-0Mailbox@mod.gov.uk) or 01904 882053 (civ) / 94777 3053 (mil)



01264 554004



[contact@aff.org.uk](mailto:contact@aff.org.uk)



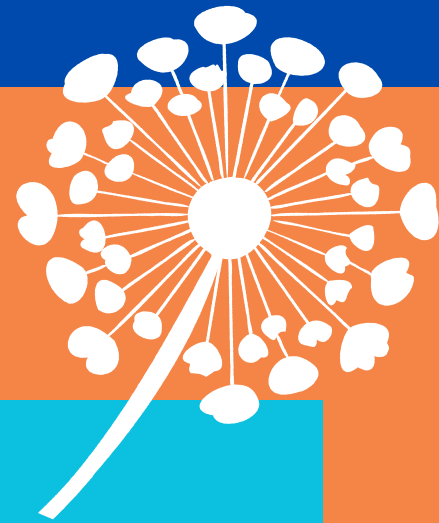
[www.aff.org.uk](http://www.aff.org.uk)





# SERVICE FAMILIES LIAISON OFFICER

## A message from me...



Hello everyone!

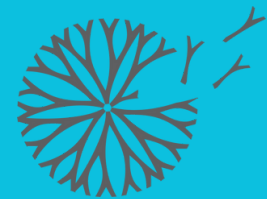
I really enjoy when the time comes around again to produce this newsletter so that I'm able to share information with you, but I would also greatly appreciate hearing your voices and would welcome your input and that of your children. If you have information/stories you would like to share, please get in touch or send it though to me on my email.

I'm acutely aware of the challenges that come with service life and the impact these may have on Service children, but I also recognise and champion the rich experiences and positive traits that Service children can bring to communities, schools and friends.

As well as supporting Service children, the wider military community, schools and Armed Forces welfare units locally, I continue to advocate on a national, policy and government level for Service children, to raise awareness of the challenges and barriers that have the potential to impact Service children. I work with many organisations championing the needs of Service children; working collaboratively our voices are strengthened in the hope that we can influence policy and drive change, whilst taking the opportunity to highlight and celebrate the rich diversity of service life and Service children.

I hope you enjoy the rest of this half term and wish you a wonderful half term break.

*Beccy Dixon*



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