

Service children: A guide to teachers' professional development

Service Children's UK Partnership CPD Task and Finish group 2020, Final report



BACKGROUND

The Service Children's Progression (SCiP) Alliance, Royal Caledonian Education Trust (RCET), Supporting Service Children in Education (SSCE) Cymru and Service Children in Education (SCISS) recognised that they were each independently working on teacher CPD materials. This group wanted to align and enhance rather than duplicate work to enable efficient use of limited resources across the sector. Membership consisted of national representatives (RCET, SSCE Cymru, SCISS), the MOD and the SCiP Alliance. Northern Ireland representatives were consulted during the process.

The group's purposes were:

To develop and embed collaboration mechanisms to ensure UK-wide cohesion in developing CPD resources to support those working with Service children in school.

To address the identified issue that considerable work is being produced by several organisations, much of which is not location specific and could be shared to ensure practice is consistent and effort is not duplicated across the UK.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The range of teacher Continuous Professional Development (CPD) materials for schools have now been aligned across the UK. A collaborative approach among key stakeholders offered many benefits and should be continued.

This report contains recommendations to ensure high-quality CPD materials are developed without duplication. These must be evidence-based and respond to a range of school contexts.

The report also contains a comprehensive record of existing provision at the beginning of 2021 (p2-3)

SCOPE

The group focussed on teacher CPD resources for mainstream education across the UK.

ACTIVITY

From January to December 2020, the group:

- Reviewed and aligned school CPD materials and approaches between organisations
- Ensured the Thriving Lives toolkit's training modules are applicable across the UK
- Undertook a comprehensive review of CPD resources in the sector, consulting a variety of partners who create school resources and a broad range of charities and other education bodies across the UK
- Documented a comprehensive record of activity in the sector
- Carefully thought through what needs to happen for collaborative work to be addressed in a clear and embedded way in the future and compiled recommendations for member organisations to take forward.

CPD resources for UK schools, January 2021

This table lists the resources aligned by the task and finish group, followed by a selection of partner resources mapped during the project.

ORGANISATION	RESOURCES	TOPICS COVERED
Royal Caledonian Education Trust (RCET)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Activity: Scottish Government GLOW Framework, RCET and Forces Education Scotland websites (2021) • Teen Talks leaflets (2017 and 2021) • Resource Boxes of books and activities to help professionals support the discussion of sensitive issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A short, light touch introduction to some of the issues faced by Armed Forces families. • The views of Children and Young People and their top tips for their families, their schools and their communities.
MOD	Service Pupil Premium guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of good practice and information on Service Pupil Premium
Service Children's Progression (SCiP) Alliance	Thriving Lives Toolkit reflective questions (2020) Thriving Lives 3 tier CPD suite (2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animations • Narrated Powerpoints • Signposting and school case studies Research briefings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy • Wellbeing • Achievement • Transition • Children's voice • Parental engagement • Staff development and training
Service Children in State Schools (SCISS)	Factsheets for teachers (2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School admissions • Transfer of documents and information • Mobility • SEND • Deployment and separation
SSCE Cymru	SSCE Cymru School Toolkit (2020) SSCE Cymru Tools (2020) Funding guidance for schools in Wales (2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armed Forces in Wales • Service children's experiences • Education in Wales • Service children data and school admissions • Mental health and wellbeing • Youth provision • Funding • Research
<p>The following resources, listed in alphabetical order, are provided by other organisations in the sector. Please refer to the links provided to find the most up to date resources.</p>		
Education Scotland	School case studies Professional learning resource General resources to support all learners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive mental health • Nurture, Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma informed practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deployment • Separation • Transition • Assessment • Networks

ORGANISATION	RESOURCES	TOPICS COVERED
Forces Education Scotland website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish National Transitions Officer resources • Advice & Guidance • Videos & PP presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitions • Mobility & Deployment • Advice for school staff to consider how well they support their Armed Forces children • Admissions, Early Years, Transitions, Leadership
Little Troopers	Packs for teachers to use with students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary pack for classes/clubs • Wellbeing courses
Naval Families Federation	Guide and research on impact of separation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separation • Weekending • Impact of parental absence • Young carers • Resilience • Emotional cycle of deployment
Never Such Innocence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson plans and resources • Online workshops exploring conflict • Virtual workshops for Service children • Guidance on extending learning • Worksheets for teachers with a class • Voices of Armed Forces children art project • International competitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's voice activities • Poetry workshops • Writing workshops • Art workshops • Conflict theme
RAF Families Federation	Funding guide for schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding
Poppy Scotland	Bud : Poppy Scotland's vehicle for exploration, learning and CPD, micro-museum with interactive learning opportunities, including virtual reality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remembrance, conflicts around the world and the Soldiers' Story
The Royal British Legion	Guide with recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice examples from England and Wales • Wellbeing • Funding
University of Kingston	ITT seminar 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations from a programme embedded within the PGCE and timetabled for all School of Education students
West Yorkshire LA Armed Forces Covenant Project	Service Pupil Premium resource directory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Armed Forces Covenant • The context for Service children • Service Pupil Premium • School case studies • Signposting for schools and families • Letter templates

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. This report should act as a central point of reference for anyone considering developing new CPD materials in the future. To ensure this happens this report should be shared with all organisations supporting the education of Service children.
2. The mapping table should be reviewed annually and updated as required.
3. There should be wide and ongoing consultation to map additional gaps in CPD resources.
4. The new SCiP Alliance stakeholder group should consider how its engagement cycle could capture school CPD priorities and current activity or provide a forum for advice for members developing new resources. SCiP Alliance stakeholders should take responsibility for taking this forward by the end of 2021.
5. The group has identified a number of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) which include Service children in their teacher training provision (for example, Kingston University and the University of Winchester). Attention should be given to collaboration to create an evidence base and community of practice which would encourage other HEIs to follow suit and establish mechanisms to:
 - Formalise collaboration
 - Demonstrate benefits
 - Share good practice
 - Evaluate existing practice
6. Training resource requirements for supporting Service children should be explored in areas such as:
 - Early years
 - Further education
 - Higher education

With thanks to:

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FURTHER INFORMATION : www.scipalliance.org