

Identification of **Armed Forces** **families**

SEEMiS Indicator
Local Authority Data Management System

Armed Forces Family Indicator

An Armed Forces Family Indicator is available within the SEEMiS data management system used by schools in all local authorities across Scotland.

Schools must activate this indicator in response to information offered by parents (*response is optional*)

Armed Forces family (Yes/No)

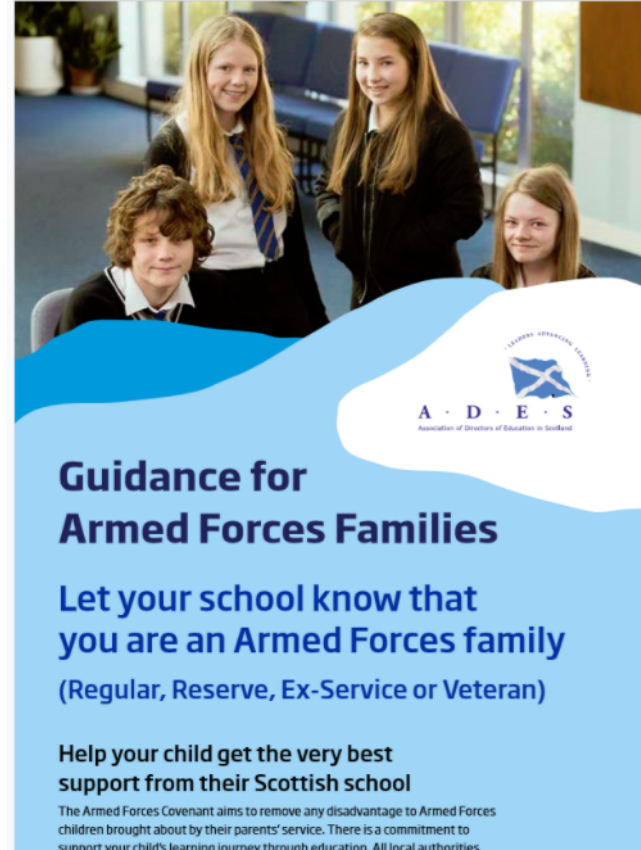
If answer is Yes the user will be required to enter a value in the second lists.

If answer is No the user will not be required to enter anything in the other lists.

Regular	(Yes/No)	Royal Navy	[]
Reserve	(Yes/No)	British Army	[]
Veteran	(Yes/No)	Royal Air Force	[]
Do not wish to say	[]	Royal Marines	[]
		Do not wish to say	[]

Let your child's school know: Guidance for Families

Tell the school you are an Armed Forces family (Regular, Reserve or Veteran/ex-Service)



Support resources are available on Forces Children's Education website
www.forceschildrenseducation.org.uk

Posters and flyers available for downloading and distribution.

Copies can be requested from the ADES National Transitions Officer, Carolyn MacLeod MBE, by emailing info@forceschildrenseducation.org.uk

Let your child's school know: Guidance for Families

Key reasons to let your school or early years setting know you are an Armed Forces family

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Armed Forces children and young people often experience many changes in their lives. When schools know, they can offer support as and when needed, with:

- **Mobility**
- **Deployment**
- **Changing schools**
- **Making new friends**
- **Leaving friends**
- **Interrupted Learning**
- **Levels of Anxiety**
- **and more...**

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WHEN CAN YOU TELL THE SCHOOL?

Anytime, during an initial visit, enrolment, registration, at the beginning of any new school year, at any transition/change, or as soon as you are able.

It is your choice to give this information, but in doing so it can help the school support your child.

HOW DO YOU DO THIS?

- In some schools there may be a form that you can (tick)
- As part of the registration package at a new school
- At the beginning of a new school year
- Make an appointment with the headteacher or manager of setting, if you wish.

Families generally welcome the question being asked as part of the welcome and registration process and within a conversation to develop relationships with school staff.

Information to help schools and local authorities

Understand how schools can best support your child and work with you in partnership to build relationships, gain a picture of your child's experiences, raise awareness, provide necessary support and early intervention, and signpost your family to activities and groups.

Improve the local authority support to the school with resources that might help their staff to better engage with Armed Forces families.

Add to a Scotland-wide picture and inform decisions that help to support Armed Forces families.

All these help your child on their learning journey.

Getting it Right for Every Child

All Scottish schools, early learning centres and childcare settings are committed to *Getting it right for every child* (known as GIRFEC).

Your child's life experiences are unique, often exciting, sometimes challenging: full of change and transitions.

Support with transitions, even for a little while, can help a child cope with new experiences.



Getting it Right for Every Child

Scottish schools that know you are an Armed Forces family

- Can learn from other schools across Scotland about activities, programmes and good practice
- Can help staff learn more about transitions for Armed Forces children and their families
- Can utilise central staff in the local authority to help with resource material and ideas.

What teachers will do for you

- Talk with you to understand your child and their learning experiences. Get to know your child
- Be ready to support you and your child if they know of any move/deployment/service duty
- In partnership with you, decide what support can be given to your child, when, and for how long
- Support your child in moving forward on their learning journey.



Schools can utilise the data to:

- More fully understand the impact of transitions for the Armed Forces children and their civilian peers
- Support positive mental health and wellbeing, e.g., separation and loss, deployment, mobility
- Analyse data of transitions, e.g., arrival and departures to support improvements/self-evaluation
 - Record number of previous schools/early years settings
 - Monitor gaps in learning and levels of support
 - Track attendance in relation to deployment of family member
- Build relationships with children and families.