

Date 08/09/2026

Dear

ATISN 27442 – Children of armed force personnel

Thank you for your request which I received on 01 September 2026. You asked for:

Information relating to children of Armed Forces personnel or veterans in maintained schools in Wales, including numbers recorded by local authority and academic year, how many would meet the Service Pupil Premium eligibility criteria if attending a state-funded school in England, and details of Welsh Government funding to support Service children in education, including allocations to SSCE Cymru, staffing, grants and related programmes for 2025 to 2026 and 2026 to 2027, as well as funding awarded directly to schools over the last five academic years.

Response

1. How many children in maintained schools in Wales are currently recorded as children of Armed Forces personnel or veterans, broken down by (a) local authority and (b) academic year?

The Welsh Government does not hold this information. Information on Service children recorded by schools is held by SSCE Cymru. You may wish to contact SSCE Cymru directly at SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk, as they may be able to provide information they hold on Service children in maintained schools in Wales.

2. How many children in maintained schools in Wales would meet the eligibility criteria for the Service Pupil Premium if they attended a state-funded school in England?

The Welsh Government does not hold this information. The Service Pupil Premium is a policy that applies in England, and the Welsh Government does not collect data on how many children in maintained schools in Wales would meet the eligibility criteria for that scheme.

You may wish to contact SSCE Cymru directly at SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk about any information they may hold on Service children in Wales.

3. Please provide a breakdown of all Welsh Government funding allocated to supporting Service children in education in 2026 to 2027, including the amounts allocated to (a) SSCE Cymru, (b) staffing and administration, (c) grants available to individual schools, (d) grants available to local authorities, and (e) any other programmes or expenditure.

(a) £310,000 was allocated to SSCE Cymru in 2026 to 2027.

(b) The Welsh Government does not hold a separate figure for the amount allocated specifically to staffing and administration.

- (c) The Welsh Government does not hold a separate figure for the amount allocated specifically to grants available to individual schools.
- (d) The Welsh Government does not hold a separate figure for the amount allocated specifically to grants available to local authorities.
- (e) The Welsh Government does not hold a separate figure for the amount allocated specifically to any other programmes or expenditure.

The £310,000 allocation to SSCE Cymru comprises of £270,000 for the Universal Support Package and £40,000 for the Targeted Support Package. The Universal Support Package funds SSCE Cymru's wider programme of support, advice and resources for schools and local authorities, while the Targeted Support Package provides more specific support where identified needs arise.

4. What is the total value of funding available for individual schools to apply for through the Supporting Service Children in Education in Wales Fund in (a) 2025 to 2026 and (b) 2026 to 2027?

For 2025 to 2026, £137,000 was allocated for school and local authority grants through the Supporting Service Children in Education Wales Project. This formed part of the total grant payable to the Welsh Local Government Association for SSCE Cymru activity in 2025 to 2026.

For 2026 to 2027, funding available through the Targeted Support Package is included in the overall allocation set out in response to question 3. As grant funding is demand-led throughout the year, the Welsh Government will not have an indication of how much funding was awarded to individual schools, or how many schools received support, until after the end of the financial year in March 2027.

You may wish to contact SSCE Cymru directly at SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk for any further information they may hold.

5. How much funding was awarded directly to individual schools through programmes specifically supporting Service children in each of the last five academic years, broken down by (a) local authority, (b) number of schools receiving funding and (c) total amount awarded?

The Welsh Government does not hold this information. You may wish to contact SSCE Cymru directly at SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk, as they may hold relevant information.

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,

CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely