

**Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc  
ac Addysg**

**Children, Young People  
and Education Committee**

Minister for Education and Welsh  
Language Jeremy Miles MS

22 April 2022

**Service children**

Dear Jeremy,

During a discussion about the Children, Young People and Education Committee's forward work programme during our meeting of 31 March 2022, Members considered the well-being and educational outcomes of Service children.

We would appreciate information from you about the following:

- i. An update on the Welsh Government's progress in enabling the collection of data on Service children in schools through the Pupil Level Annual School Census, in line with the previous Welsh Government's 2019 Commitment.
- ii. The Welsh Government's engagement with the Armed Forces Covenant Fund, including the extent to which the Welsh Government is involved in developing the projects to be funded, and how the Welsh Government ensures that Welsh Armed Forces families receive a fair share of UK-wide funding.
- iii. The most up-to-date data, broken down by local authority, on:
  - the number of schools with service children and the number of service children attending those schools;
  - absence rates for Service children (and of all pupils for comparative purposes);
  - the proportion of Service children who are entitled to Free School Meals (and of all pupils for comparative purposes);

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- the proportion of Service children with additional learning needs (and of all pupils for comparative purposes); and
  - average attainment of Service children at GCSE-level, as measured by the percentage of entries achieving A\*-C or whichever suitable measure (and of all pupils for comparative purposes).
- iv. Your views on the effectiveness of the Regional School Liaison Officers for Service children project since its inception in September 2020, the Welsh Government's current position on the future of Regional School Liaison Officers for Service children post September 2022, and your views on the effectiveness of the Supporting Service Children in Education Cymru (SSCE) project more generally.
- v. Whether any consideration has been given to extending eligibility for the Pupil Development Grant to Service children, as is the case with the Pupil Premium in England.

I would be grateful for this information no later than Friday 27 May 2022.

Yours sincerely,



Jayne Bryant MS

Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.