# WRITTEN STATEMENT

# BY

# THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

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| **TITLE**  | **Purple Up! Day - Month of the Military Child** |
| **DATE**  | **26 April 2024** |
| **BY** | **Lynne Neagle MS, Cabinet Secretary for Education** |

The Welsh Government is committed to equity of provision in education for all children and young people so that learners, including Service children, are supported to reach their full potential and access the support and help they need. Service children may experience different forms of barriers to education resulting from their unique status as children of Armed Forces personnel.

Since 2019 the Welsh Government has funded the Supporting Service Children in Education (SSCE) Cymru project hosted by the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA). I am delighted to announce SSCE Cymru will receive annual funding of £270,000 for 2024-25.

April is the Month of the Military Child and an important milestone giving schools and organisations the opportunity to come together and recognise Service children. Purple Up! Day is held annually and is a day when everyone is encouraged to wear purple to celebrate children from Armed Forces families. Purple was chosen as it combines the various colours associated with different branches of the military.

The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation ensuring those who serve or who have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly. We are working with partners across Wales and the UK to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant.

I am pleased to show my commitment to all Service children in Wales and wish all children, young people and schools, as well as our Armed Forces communities, an enjoyable day’s celebrations.