

Infant Site

School Lane,
Winfrith Newburgh,
Dorset
DT2 8JL



Junior Site

School Lane,
West Lulworth,
Dorset,
BH20 5SA

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Email: lwps.office@coastalpartnership.co.uk

Head teacher: Mrs E Griffiths

Subject: Important Information Regarding the Service Premium and Support for Service Children

Dear Families of Service Personnel,

As a family of a service member, your child is entitled to the Service Premium, a Government grant provided to schools to support children with a parent serving in the regular armed forces. This funding is designed to help schools provide additional pastoral support during challenging times, and to help mitigate the negative impact of family mobility, separation or parental deployment on service children.

At Lulworth and Winfrith CE Primary School, we are committed to using this funding to provide tailored and effective support for our service children. The Service Premium enables us to:

- **Prioritise Pastoral Care:** Service children are prioritised for daily pastoral check-ins, ensuring a dedicated and consistent member of staff is available to offer support and guidance as needed.
- **Invest in Specialised Staff:** The funding allows us to train staff on each school site to become Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSAs). These trained professionals provide targeted support to children facing emotional or social challenges.
- **Fund Ongoing Professional Development:** Our ELSA support staff attend termly supervision sessions with an Educational Psychologist, ensuring they are continually developing their skills and delivering the highest quality of support. In addition, other staff members attend training sessions to strengthen our provision.
- **Targeted Teaching and Interventions:** Throughout the year we monitor progress pupils are making and each term teaching staff identify pupils who we feel would benefit from additional interventions. This could be to help the child make progress academically (e.g. booster phonics practice/access to Lexia learning platform)

As per government guidelines, the service premium funding is not used to subsidise routine school activity, e.g. trips and/or music lessons. Nevertheless, you can see from the list above that all pupils from service families will benefit. We also will be **facilitating drop-in sessions for parents of service families** to answer queries and help everyone gain a sense of belonging within our school community on several occasions throughout the year; **Thursday 17th Sept 2:45-3:30pm and Wednesday 14th April 2:45-3:15pm**. In addition, Mrs Johnson will continue to run the **Little Troopers support sessions** after school each half term for service children to come together and recognise their own similar experiences and sense of community. The dates for these after school sessions on our **Lulworth site** are already scheduled as follows:

15th September – 3:15-4:15pm

19th January – 3:15 – 4:15pm

13th April – 3:15-4:15pm

29th June – 3:15 – 4:15pm

Do please let the school office know if you would like your child to attend.

The ELSA programme is a well-established and highly effective intervention. ELSA stands for Emotional Literacy Support Assistant. It is a specific intervention designed to help children develop a greater understanding of their own emotions and those of others. Through ELSA sessions, children can learn strategies to manage their feelings and improve their social skills. This can be particularly beneficial for children who may be experiencing challenges related to family life, parental deployment, or transitioning between schools.

ELSA sessions are tailored to the individual needs of each child and can cover a range of topics, including managing anxiety, building self-esteem, understanding friendships, and coping with loss and bereavement. The goal of ELSA is to empower children with the emotional skills they need to thrive both in school and in their personal lives.

If you believe your child could benefit from this additional support or would like to discuss the Service Premium further, please do not hesitate to contact our school office.

Yours sincerely,

Kind regards,

Tasha Hardy

Tasha Hardy

Deputy Headteacher/Inclusion Lead

