

Service Children's Progression



# IDENTITY MATTERS:

THE SERVICE CHILDREN'S PROGRESSION  
ALLIANCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

29 NOVEMBER 2023

X @scipalliance #scipconf2023

[www.scipalliance.org](http://www.scipalliance.org)

## DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

**W**elcome to the 2023 SCiP Alliance Annual Conference: Identity Matters.

As ever, the diversity of our community brings a wealth of expertise and depth of commitment to our vision of thriving lives for Service children. Together we will explore the distinctive, diverse and dynamic identities of children and young people from serving and ex-Armed Forces families by sharing our own good practice, learning from others and developing new collaborations and action. And most importantly, by hearing the experiences of Service children in their own words.

This collective and collaborative effort is all-the-more important when considering the role and significance of identity. Research, school curricula, national policy, multi-partner collaborations – everything we do – interacts with identity in a two-way conversation: we want a secure and fulfilling future for each child and young person while our best work provides an enabling scaffold for every individual to explore and develop what they want for their lives.

The progress of the Alliance reflects this appreciation. Alongside the challenges, our theory of change acknowledges the potential for development that can flow from the unique Armed Forces lifestyle. Our asset-based approach helps to guard against deficit-focused thinking and work, which limits ambitions, restricts solutions and problematises children and young people's lives. The Thriving Lives Toolkit – already at work in schools and under development for early years, colleges and universities – embeds in assessment and practice improvement, not a one-size-fits-all mentality, but a nuanced and personal appreciation of the complexity of each individual's life with a focus on listening to their voices, engaging with their families and equipping their supporters.

Further, every Hub in the Network responds to the call to 'do together what we cannot do alone' and the new Hub Handbook encourages partners to explore what Service children's needs look like uniquely in their area. That responsiveness to local context is now the norm for nearly 1,000 professionals in the Network and is made possible through the stewardship of over 20 allies in 12 Hubs. Individuals can receive enhanced tailored support at higher education thanks to the recently introduced option to self-

**our best work provides an enabling scaffold for every individual to explore and develop what they want for their lives.**

identify as a Service child through UCAS applications while the higher education research we published last month provides an important reminder that the most common number of Service children on roll in a school is one.

The tension between what Service children share as a group and the unique experiences of each individual, is at the heart of what we are exploring today but must remain at the front of our thinking over the long-term. We must find ways to enhance the framework of national policy so that it enables responsiveness in regional, local, and organisational practice. In that context, we must support the community of professionals – our community – to champion sustained, inclusive and tailored support that recognises the distinctive nature of service in the Armed Forces and to respond meaningfully to the diverse and dynamic experiences of each individual child and young person.

**Philip Dent, SCiP Alliance Director**



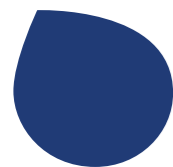
## AGENDA

09.00	Conference registration, refreshments, networking and exhibition
09.15	Welcome to the Conference, Conference chair Lizzie Rodulson, Military Child, Nurse and Liverpool Guild of Students Democracy and Campaigns Manager
09.30	Why Identity Matters: Distinctive, Diverse and Dynamic Philip Dent, Director, Service Children's Progression Alliance
10.00	Choice of workshops - Session 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversations about support for children from military families: Exciting possibilities</li> <li>• Translating child-centered creative research methods into the school context</li> <li>• The exploration of student voice within university outreach</li> <li>• Supporting Bereaved Service Children</li> </ul>
11.00	Break: Refreshments, networking and exhibition
11.30	In conversation with Armed Forces children and young people
12.00	Rt Hon Dr Andrew Murrison Mp, Minister for Defence People, Veterans and Service Families
12.30	Lunch: Networking and exhibition
13.15	Choice of workshops - Session 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive Pathways through Purposeful Partnerships</li> <li>• Tornado of Change: From Military to Civilian Child</li> <li>• Armed Forces Young Carers Identities and Identification research and practice</li> <li>• Championing the Service child</li> </ul>
14.15	Refreshments
14.30	Panel discussion with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kim James - Head of Learning and School Improvement, Oxfordshire County Council</li> <li>• Dr Liam Satchell - Senior Lecturer in Psychology, University of Winchester</li> <li>• John Shivas - Assistant Head Armed Forces Covenant Team, Ministry of Defence</li> <li>• Ant Sutcliffe - Associate Director, Higher Horizons</li> </ul>
15.30	Closing comments
15.40	Conference evaluation, networking and exhibition
16.00	Have a safe journey home

WORKSHOPS - 10.00	ROOM
<p><b>THE EXPLORATION OF STUDENT VOICE WITHIN UNIVERSITY OUTREACH</b> Tian Barratt, Widening Participation Outreach Manager, University of Portsmouth Clair Martin &amp; Steve Baker, Seekers Create</p> <p>The University of Portsmouth recently collaborated with social creative Seekers Create, to explore student voice, as part of their Creative Forces events with Service children. The gamification of student voice, facilitated by Seekers Create, resulted in a vast amount of written, drawn, and oral data reflecting on service child identity. Some of which, is being turned into legacy resources. Learning is being used to continue collaboration with a small group of service children who are helping to co-design our future Creative Forces programme. This workshop will include an overview of the project and collaboration with Seekers Create and a local school. Seekers Create will then apply their unique doodle-methodology to facilitate a practical activity; capturing insights and reflections on the conference theme of 'identity' in a way that is fun, engaging, and explorative, and showcases the ways in which delegates can engage with Seekers Create within their own settings.</p>	INNOVATE
<p><b>TRANSLATING CHILD-CENTERED CREATIVE RESEARCH METHODS INTO THE SCHOOL CONTEXT</b> Lucy Robinson, Doctoral Researcher, Department of Education, University of Oxford</p> <p>This workshop will take an aspect of ongoing PhD research, creative research methods, and explain how these were used by research participants (Service children aged between 9-16) to explore their service child identities. This research centres Service children and is underpinned by the values of voice research by using creative methods as research methodology and taking an innovative approach to explore Service children's identities.</p>	DEVELOP
<p><b>CONVERSATIONS ABOUT SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN FROM MILITARY FAMILIES: EXCITING POSSIBILITIES</b> Dr Anne Chappell, Head of the Department of Education, Brunel University London Dr Ellen McHugh, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Education, Brunel University London</p> <p>It is widely known within the SCiP community that the complex lives of children growing up in a military family create unique opportunities and challenges. In order to consider the impact of these experiences on 'identity matters', we are bringing together in this workshop the outcomes of conversations between researchers at Brunel University London and those working to support these young people in practice contexts. We will outline the findings from research that has explored the experiences of grown-up children from military families and the ways in which these accounts illustrate the possibilities for interventions, including therapeutic work, to support current children from military families. Delegates' knowledge and understanding of this unique group of children will be enhanced and the session will illustrate what future support is needed and what it could look like.</p>	DISCOVER
<p><b>SUPPORTING BEREAVED SERVICE CHILDREN</b> Lorna Vyse, Families Team - Projects, Scotty's Little Soldiers</p> <p>This workshop will explore the unique challenges faced by children and young people (0-25 years) who have experienced the death of a parent who served in the British Armed Forces. It will consider the impact of the loss of military identity for those children and provide an overview of the work of Scotty's Little Soldiers, which was set up in 2010 to ensure those children are not disadvantaged as a result of their bereavement. Scotty's support bereaved children of both serving personnel and veterans - this workshop will also highlight the differences in support between these two groups.</p>	IMAGINE

WORKSHOPS - 13.15	LOCATION
<p><b>POSITIVE PATHWAYS THROUGH PURPOSEFUL PARTNERSHIPS</b> Kelly Wales, Education and Skills Liaison, Forces Employment Charity Sarah Harder-Collins, Deputy Director Student Support and Success, University of Winchester Corianne Gjertsen, Transitions Coordinator and Student Advisor, University of Winchester</p> <p>This workshop will showcase case studies of young people who are currently being supported by the Forces Employment Charity. It aims to provide an understanding of why Service children require additional one-to-one career support, which is tailored to their specific needs. During the workshop, we will discuss the barriers and challenges faced by Service children and the importance of allowing them to identify themselves as Service children. By doing so, they will have access to a holistic bespoke support package that helps them increase confidence and self-awareness and achieve positive vocational outcomes.</p>	INNOVATE
<p><b>TORNADO OF CHANGE - FROM MILITARY TO CIVILIAN CHILD</b> Nina Collins, Children and Young People's Participation Manager, Forces Children Scotland Gary Seath, Marketing, Communications and Development Manager, Forces Children Scotland</p> <p>Forces Children Scotland will present its Combined Force co-production methodology and how it was applied to work directly with young people to creatively explore changes in identity when a parent decides to leave the armed forces. The workshop will focus on the charity's recent Tornado of Change Campaign and delegates will hear from young people and the wider team involved about the immersive, creative process completed to co-produce three impactful conceptual videos. Delegates will join the young people and team to participate in creative activities to further explore the theme of identity, based on the campaign's three predominant themes.</p>	DEVELOP
<p><b>ARMED FORCES YOUNG CARERS IDENTITIES AND IDENTIFICATION: RESEARCH AND PRACTICE</b> Helen Leadbitter, Director, Young Carers Initiative Dr Paul Watson, Assistant Director of the Northern Hub for Veterans and Military Families, Research Assistant Professor in Nursing &amp; Specialist Community Public Health Nursing, Northumbria University</p> <p>This workshop will present evidence from both research and practice of the hidden nature of Service children young carers. Informed by young carers themselves from across Tri-Service Armed Forces families of how the impacts of caring roles can be compounded by factors linked specifically with military life, such as mobility and deployment becoming barriers to their identification for support. By understanding and listening to the hidden voices of Service children young carers, how they consider their identity and how they can inform tools and resources for military welfare, family federations and external agencies to improve recognition and support young carers.</p>	DISCOVER
<p><b>CHAMPIONING THE SERVICE CHILD</b> Angela Campbell, Service Children's Champion North Yorkshire Council</p> <p>This workshop will explore the common and diverse experiences of Service children and young people, whilst also looking at inspiring ways to engage with schools, families and the wider community. Looking at the different ways North Yorkshire have engaged and celebrated Service children and young people and the positive impact of projects, such as 'Service Children's Community Choir', 'Welcome to Our World', 'Armed Forces Day for children' and the annual 'Festival of Remembrance'.</p>	IMAGINE

## TODAY'S SPEAKERS



THE RT HON DR ANDREW MURRISON MP

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Defence People, Veterans and Service Families), Ministry of Defence

Dr Andrew Murrison was appointed Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Defence on 30 October 2022, being responsible for all policy matters relating to civilian and service personnel, service families and MOD owned veteran services. Andrew served for 18 years as a medical officer in the Royal Navy, leaving in October 2000 as a Surgeon Commander. In 2003 he was recalled to serve in Iraq and in 2021 was mobilised to lead vaccination teams as part of Operation Rescript. He remains an active reservist.



PHILIP DENT



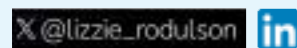
Director, SCiP Alliance

Philip was a secondary school teacher before leading a regional higher education access partnership. He founded a social enterprise championing whole-person, whole journey approaches and co-founded the National Network for the Education of Care Leavers, also leading its spin-out as a charity. He has worked throughout the UK and in Australia on progression for under-represented and vulnerable groups, was an adviser to England's access regulator, and has lead research, training and advisory work with schools, colleges, universities and agencies on factors impacting on thriving through the life-course. Philip has been Director of the SCiP Alliance since establishing it in 2016, after leading the research-practice project that laid its foundations.

## CONFERENCE CHAIR



LIZZIE RODULSON



Democracy & Campaigns Manager, University of Liverpool Guild of Students

Lizzie grew up as a Service child in the Royal Air Force; born in Germany, she lived in Gloucestershire, Copenhagen and Oxfordshire during her upbringing in the military. Having undertaken a degree in Paediatric Nursing at the University of Surrey and after spending 2 subsequent years as a Sabbatical Officer, she spent time as a Neonatal Nurse at Kings College Hospital London and has since returned to the world of student experience, currently working as the University of Liverpool Guild of Students' Democracy & Campaigns Manager. Lizzie continues to advocate for the Service child having sat on the SCiP Alliance Board since January 2022 alongside volunteering across the sector to raise awareness of the experiences of Service young people, with a special interest in Higher Education.

## TODAY'S WORKSHOPS



ANGELA CAMPBELL



Service Children's Champion, North Yorkshire Council  
[servicechildrenschampion.co.uk](http://servicechildrenschampion.co.uk)

Angela was a primary school teacher before taking on the role of Service Children's Champion for North Yorkshire Council. She established the Service Children's Community Choir to give children from military families a voice and an opportunity to be proud of their identity. Angela worked in close collaboration with Never Such Innocence to take 33 of their choir members to London to audition for Britain's Got Talent culminating with them performing in the live semi-finals. Angela is chair of the Service Children's Network, hosting termly meetings where schools, military representatives and other professionals can come together to share updates and best practice whilst also providing free CPD. As Service Children's Champion, Angela has project-managed large-scale events which bring children together so that they can celebrate who they are.



LUCY ROBINSON



Doctoral Researcher, Department of Education, University of Oxford

Lucy Robinson is a final year doctoral researcher at the Department of Education, University of Oxford, funded by an ESRC Grand Union DTP studentship. Her DPhil research engages in a meaningful and creative way with service children to explore how military life has shaped their experiences of education and sense of self. Before embarking on her DPhil at Oxford, Lucy completed her PGCE and MEd in Primary Education at the University of Cambridge. In addition to her DPhil work and role as Twitter Manager for the Defence Research Network (DRN), Lucy is a Trustee for the Armed Forces Education Trust (AFET).



TIAN BARRATT



Widening Participation Outreach Manager, University of Portsmouth

Tian has worked within HE access, outreach and widening participation for over 10 years. His career started in Community Sports Development, before running projects on the Aim Higher Initiative and has since led outreach teams and projects at the Universities of Southampton and Portsmouth. He worked nationwide leading innovative approaches to whole-system careers education and leadership for a large Multi-Academy Trust and has facilitated career leader training for cohorts of new and emerging leaders. He currently leads widening participation outreach at the University of Portsmouth and chairs the Southern Hub of the SCiP Alliance since establishing it in 2019.



KELLY WALES

 @kellyewales  @ForcesEmploy 

Education and Skills Liaison, Forces Employment Charity

Kelly was a Primary School Deputy Headteacher before joining a first of its kind start-up project, funded by the Armed Forces Covenant Trust Fund. Working with Senior Garrison and Station Commanders and Forces Families Federations, the project created the 'Military Coworking Network' with hubs in the UK and overseas, to enable the independent professional lives and careers of military spouses and partners. Now the Education and Skills Lead at Forces Employment Charity, Kelly heads up the youth careers programme, identifying support needs of service children, holistic 1:1 casework, and creating learning opportunities and employment pathways for young people aged 16-25.



GARY SEATH

 @ForcesChildScot 

Marketing, Communications & Development Manager, Forces Children Scotland

Gary has extensive third-sector experience working with armed forces and veteran communities. He formally worked as a musical educator in schools and conducted research concerning music education and emotional intelligence development. He comes from an armed forces family and is a reservist, serving, in 105 Regiment (The Scottish Gunners) Royal Artillery. Gary has been involved in working directly with children and young people from armed forces and veteran families to co-produce many of Forces Children Scotland's projects, service, and campaigns, including its Forces Life Board Game and Comic Book, Tornado of Change Video Campaign, Your Mind Matters and many more.



DR PAUL WATSON

 @Dr\_PaulWatson 

Assistant Director of the Northern Hub for Veterans and Military Families Research (Military connected Children and Young People), Northumbria University

On leaving the Armed Forces, Paul completed a BSc in Mental Health nursing, specialising in children's mental health nursing in 2013. Paul then went on to complete a Post Graduate Diploma in Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (School Nurse) in 2014. Paul was appointed the school nurse for Catterick Military Garrison. On leaving clinical practice Paul went into higher education. Paul is currently an Assistant Professor in children and young people's health, Specialist Public Health Nursing (School Nursing and Health Visiting) and Assistant Director of the Northern Hub for Military and Veterans Family Research at Northumbria University, with a growing portfolio of research on the emotional health and wellbeing of Military connected children and young people, PTSD and social isolation and loneliness in the veteran population, military connected suicide, and is an expert in narrative methodologies. Moreover, Dr Watson completed his PhD in 2022, titled: The experiences of being a young carer of a veteran parent with PTSD: A narrative enquiry.



NINA COLLINS

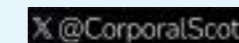

 @ForcesChildScot 

Children and Young People's Participation Manager, Forces Children Scotland

Nina was a registered Sick Children's Nurse, and after a spell at the DWP, made the leap to work in the voluntary sector in 2008, working first at a young carers' project in Fife where she developed training and resources for and about young carers. In that role she also led on the implementation of the Young Carers' Authorisation Card Scheme for Fife, ensuring that young carers had early access to support, information and understanding from professionals. In 2016 she took on the role of manager and further expanded the support available for young carers in the Fife area. After managing the project for two years she moved to Forces Children Scotland in 2018 to develop their participation work and since then has supported a variety of projects to amplify the voices of children and young people from serving and veteran families. She is constantly inspired by the creativity, passion and dedication that the children and young people bring to Forces Children Scotland's work.



LORNA VYSE

 @CorporalScotty 

Families Team – Bereavement Projects, Scotty's Little Soldiers

Lorna is a specialist in childhood bereavement and in her role at Scotty's Little Soldiers, a charity that supports bereaved British Forces children and young people, she helps to design bereavement services and resources that specifically help children cope with their grief. Lorna is an author of three children's bereavement support books and has a wealth of experience of working with children and young people in a variety of settings, including the Army Welfare Service and Victim Support. Lorna currently sits on the Childhood Bereavement Network Advisory Group and is passionate about improving outcomes for bereaved children and their families.



DR ANNE CHAPPELL

 @annechappell7 

Reader and Head of the Department of Education, Brunel University London

Dr Anne Chappell has been in the Department of Education since 2004, having previously worked as a teacher in five secondary schools. Since her time in the Department, Anne has undertaken the role of programme leader on both an undergraduate and PGCE course leading to Qualified Teacher Status, Department Director of Teaching and Learning and Deputy Head of Department. Anne's PhD critically explored teachers' professional learning and her research interests are in auto/biography, education, policy, and the experiences of children, young people and professionals.





CORIANNE GJERTSEN



Transition Coordinator and Student Adviser, University of Winchester

Corianne has worked in UK Higher Education since 2016 in roles within student services, quality assurance, admissions and recruitment, and widening participation. Corianne designs and delivers sustained widening participation programmes to support the educational transition of students from backgrounds traditionally under-represented in higher education, which includes UK military families. Corianne is the Programme Coordinator for the 'Positive Pathways to Higher Education for Forces Families' programme, and she is the named contact for students from military backgrounds at the University of Winchester. Corianne leads on the university's Creative Forces Days and is a member of the SCiP South Hub

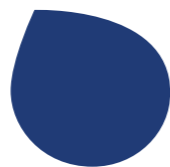


HELEN LEADBITTER



Director, Young Carers Initiative

Helen Leadbitter has over 20 years' experience working in the charity and not for profit sector as an experienced programme development and delivery manager and Director of National Programmes driving change for vulnerable children and young people. With specialist knowledge of the young carers sector both nationally across England and internationally. She has delivered programmes of work to evidence the needs of young carers in particularly hard to reach cohorts including young carers in Armed Forces families, refugee and migrant families and those affected by stigmatised illness.



SARAH HARDER COLLINS



Deputy Director Student Support and Success, University of Winchester

Sarah has over fifteen years' experience working in the higher education sector, specialising in widening participation and the wider student experience. She is currently the Head of Participation and Success (Deputy Director, Student Support and Success) at the University of Winchester where she has driven initiatives to enhance the access and outcomes of disadvantaged groups, including championing institution wide plans to address ethnicity awarding gaps. She is also the Chair of Board for the Service Children's Progression (SCiP) Alliance, a UK-wide network for practitioners supporting the educational progression of children from military service families, Governor of the South Hampshire College Group and a Founding Trustee of the Winchester City of Sanctuary.



ELLEN MCHUGH



Senior Lecturer in Education, Brunel University London

Dr Ellen McHugh is Senior Lecturer in Education in the Department of Education, Brunel University London. Ellen's research interests focus on education and student experience; higher education and widening participation; transnationalism and belonging.

## TODAY'S PANEL



ANT SUTCLIFFE



Associate Director & Lead, Higher Horizons

Ant has worked in the area of Widening Participation since 2005, serving as a student ambassador, WP assistant & an Aimhigher funded project officer before leading Higher Horizons through both the OfS funded NNCO programme and the Uni Connect Programme. Although Ant has worked on government funded and impartial WP schemes all of his career, he has always been based at Keele University. He has been a member of the national Uni Connect SCiP Alliance steering group since 2018, driving the set up of a Midlands Hub, to serve Service Children across the region. Ant was honoured to be recognised as Widening Participation Practitioner of the Year at the 2020 NEON awards.



JOHN SHIVAS

Assistant Head Armed Forces Covenant Team, MOD

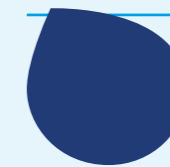
John has been working in the MOD for over thirty years in a variety of different roles, before joining the Armed Forces Covenant Team in 2012. Working closely with Covenant partners from different sectors across the UK, he helped to develop key resources and events to better engage with local networks and support members of the Armed Forces community. He recently led a small team to create the Covenant legal duty for public bodies, to have due regard to the principles of the Covenant in the key areas of housing, education, and healthcare. The new duty stood up in law on 22/11/22 and he is continuing to lead on communicating and embedding its aims in policy teams across the UK.



KIM JAMES

Head of Learning and School Improvement, Oxfordshire County Council

Kim spent 22 years in Secondary School Leadership teaching in Schools across the South East. In 2008, she joined Hampshire County Council as an inspector and adviser, working across primary, secondary, and special schools. Appointed in 2018 as Head of Service in Oxfordshire, currently line manages school improvement, governor services, early years, attendance, and the Virtual School. A key part of her School Improvement role leading on Service Pupils, she chairs the Oxfordshire and Central Service Pupil Hub, is a member of the Civilian Military Partnership in Oxfordshire and a member of the Ministry of Defence Local Authority Partnership for Service Pupils. (MODLAP). In January 2023 she was awarded an MBE for 'services to education'.



DR LIAM SATCHELL



Senior Lecturer in Psychology, University of Winchester

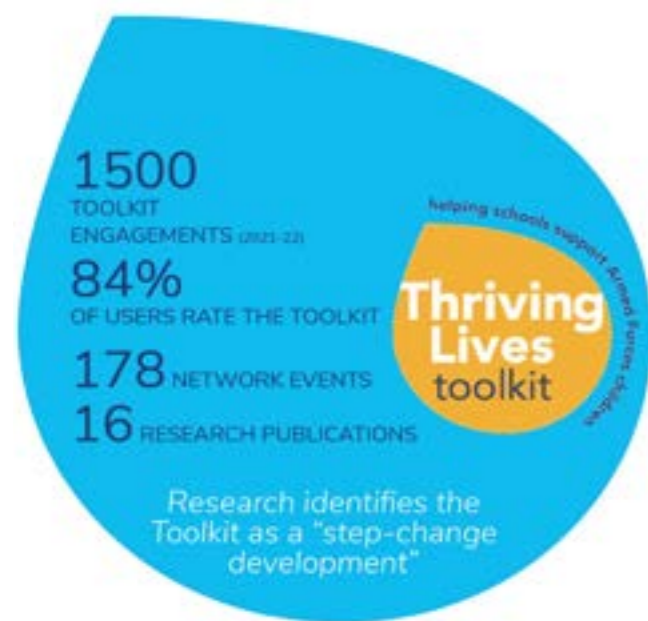
Liam is a research psychologist with expertise in methodology and individual differences. His expertise is in using data science and psychology to best understand the wellbeing and experiences of the individual in everyday contexts. He has conducted research and consultancy in a variety of applied and high stakes environments including policing, security, sport, and education. Recently, he co-edited a book on Mental Wellbeing in Schools: What Teachers Can Do To Support Pupils From Diverse Backgrounds, which gives practical advice on how to support a wide variety of children. This includes three key issues of Social Inclusion, Identity Formation, and Agency - all of which are important for Service Children.

## THRIVING LIVES TOOLKIT

The toolkit is now available online here: <https://thrivinglives.scipalliance.org/>

Underpinned by rigorous research and thoroughly tested in schools, the Thriving Lives Toolkit provides schools with a framework of 7 principles through which to reflect on their practice and a 3-tier set of CPD resources. The resources in this toolkit have been developed in collaboration with a range of partners across the UK, and consist of:

- An introductory animation
- A detailed resource introducing the evidence base, what schools can do to support their Service children and who can help and;
- School case studies.



The Service Children's Progression Alliance conducted a large-scale UK-wide consultation which told us that professionals supporting Armed Forces children want to be better connected: with each other, with evidence and with support. The Thriving Lives Toolkit responds directly to this need.

The research identified seven principles for effective practice and a framework to help schools undertake evidence-based reflection and identify improvement priorities. Research does not identify any principle to be of more importance than any others.



Can I just say how invaluable the thriving Lives Toolkit has been in monitoring our provision for our Service children. It is a fantastic auditing tool the we use regularly, and we will be updating it again soon.

Diane Kimberley - Forces Friends Lead at Ranvilles Infant School

### THRIVING LIVES TOOLKIT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS:

**Family Survey Tool** - To be used by schools to secure Service children's and families' voices, and inform their Toolkit self-assessment. It is intended that this will be used by schools to improve their understanding of, and support provided to, their Service children.

**Upgraded case study bank** - A searchable bank of case studies and guidance where school staff can assess their progress by learning from others well-evidenced examples.

**Toolkit expansion from Early Years to Higher Education** - A Thriving Lives Toolkit suite, covering children and young people aged from 0-25. The suite will set a new standard for evidence-based support for Service children, transforming the capacity of providers to understand Service children's complex lives, identify their unique (and greatest) needs and develop and continually enhance targeted support.

## SCIP ALLIANCE HUB NETWORK

The UK-wide Hub Network epitomises our priority of partnership by helping allies to do together what they cannot do alone. Since 2019, the Hub Network has grown in size, activity and impact: There are currently 12 Hubs across the UK, with a Kent and Medway Hub launching soon.

**891 MEMBERS**

PROGRAMME OF REGIONAL EVENTS

**82%** CONSIDERING THE HUB NETWORK EXTREMELY OR VERY USEFUL

OUR HUB NETWORK CREATES POSITIVE CHANGE FOR SERVICE CHILDREN, BY;

- Increasing knowledge of and support for Service children
- Helping practitioners to develop confidence, access resources and share best practice
- Increasing consistent, high-quality outreach work with schools, colleges and universities
- Increasing local intelligence enabling better support for Service children around the UK

It's the best of both worlds. You've got national coverage, but then you've got local knowledge, the understanding and different skills.

The SCiP Alliance's network of regional hubs brings together partnerships which connect stakeholders so that they can:

- Enable new and better collaborations
- Facilitate communication
- Build capacity and capability
- Reach out to new stakeholders
- Communicate with, contribute to and draw from the SCiP Alliance Practice Group and Strategy Board



## TAKE ACTION

### JOIN THE ALLIANCE

The SCiP Alliance brings together practitioners, researchers, policymakers and funders to build a stronger evidence-base, better policy, and enhanced support for Service children's education and progression, placing their voices at the heart of all we do. The Alliance is hosted by the University of Winchester and supported by the Ministry of Defence.



Director: **Philip Dent**

Head of Operations: **Katherine Lawrence**

Projects Manager: **Rachel Lad**

Engagement Manager: **Victoria Fisher**

Board chair: **Sarah Harder-Collins**, University of Winchester

## OUR STRATEGY: 2022-2026

**COMMUNITY & IMPACT** - How building our community will enhance our impact on Service children's lives

By building the community that our research says is one of the Alliance's most valued assets, we will increase the number of allies working together and the quality of the support we provide for Service children - and the impact on their lives. By deepening our understanding of that impact and sharing that knowledge with the sector, we will continually strengthen the case for collaborative action - and engagement in our community. That is the Community Impact cycle.



## BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

Every day, throughout the UK and overseas, thousands of professionals – in education, research, governments, charities and more – contribute to UK Service children's wellbeing and success. They come together as part of the Alliance Community to enhance their work for Service children by sharing challenges, solutions, resources and the successes made possible through their collaborations.

## ENHANCING OUR IMPACT

Rigorous research and its systematic application to practice and policy are in the Alliance's DNA. Allies repeatedly cite the robust foundations of the support the Alliance provides – whether practical tools, training, guidance or resources – as key to improving the scale and quality of their work with and for Service children. Demonstrating and understanding the impact of that work will enable us to sustain and grow our impact.

## OUR STRATEGIC APPROACH

Our independent community consultation demonstrated the high value placed on the Alliance and its activities, and it highlighted the significant potential of existing assets to achieve even more. In response, our strategy focuses on investing in existing strengths and targeted new developments to maximise our support for the community and our support for collective impact on Service children's lives. The strategic goals that follow demonstrate how we will embed, enhance and expand existing work, and establish key developments to achieve our community and impact goals.

## OUR STRATEGY: COMMUNITY + IMPACT

By building the community that our research says is one of the Alliance's most valued assets, we will increase the number of allies working together and the quality of the support we provide for Service children - and the impact on their lives. By deepening our understanding of that impact and sharing that knowledge with the sector, we will continually strengthen the case for collaborative action - and engagement in the community. That is the Community + Impact cycle.

### EMBED

FOCUS ON MAKING THE MOST OF CORE STRENGTHS

### ENHANCE

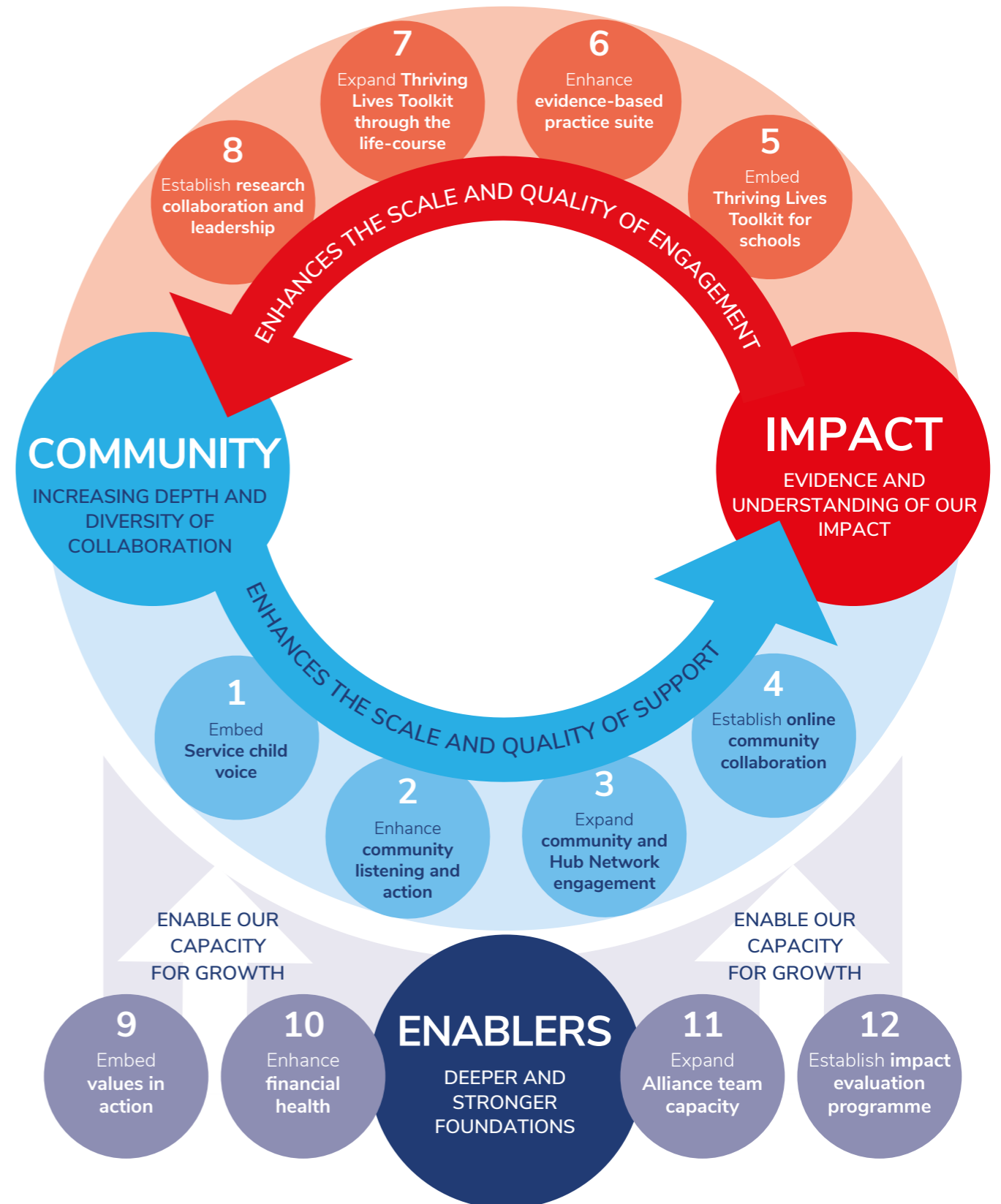
REFINE AND STRENGTHEN VALUED ACTIVITY

### EXPAND

EXTEND THE REACH AND APPLICATION OF KEY ASSETS

### ESTABLISH

DEVELOP NEW ACTIVITY TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY AND IMPACT PRIORITIES





# GET INVOLVED



GO TO OUR WEBSITE  
TO FIND OUT MORE



USE THE ONLINE  
TARGETING TOOL



ATTEND AN EVENT



SUBSCRIBE TO OUR  
NEWSLETTER



USE THE THRIVING  
LIVES TOOLKIT



JOIN A HUB

## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

We hope you have enjoyed the day and would be grateful for your feedback to guide our decisions about future events. Please find the time to provide your feedback here:

<https://tinyurl.com/48j3c3tt>



The Service Children's Progression Alliance is led by the University of Winchester and supported by the MoD