



Forces Families at Highbury

Mrs Fuller (Service Family Champion)



I would like to introduce myself. I am from a military background and am delighted to be our school's Service Family Champion and it is a role which I am extremely passionate about. As a "Military baby" I am all too aware of the impact that being in the forces can have for all those involved be it positive or negative! From having loved ones away on exercise, active deployment, missed birthdays, moving home, uncertainty of what the future holds, making new friends to even being in a "Normal" school. It is true that the Forces children's flower is symbolised by the dandelion.....able to go where the wind takes them and put down roots. Please know that I, as the Service Family Champion, and we, as a school, are here to help support you and your family every step of the way.

Highbury Primary School is proud to be part of Reading Force, Little Troopers and the Pompey's Military Kids (PMK). PMK is a joint initiative which was set up by representatives from different schools across the city, working together with Portsmouth City Council (PCC) and the Naval Families Federation (NFF).

Being part of this cluster group allows for collaborative working across the school setting for us to be able to share lots of good ideas and best practise across the city. PCC and NFF create events and activities which lets Service children come together and meet new friends which helps to create a network of peer support within the community.

Reading Force

Reading Force is an incredible opportunity for families to come together, no matter where they are and share special moments. The initiative is free for all forces families, Reserves, Cadets, and Ex-Forces families - friends can even join in too! Reading Force are passionate about using books to bring forces children and families closer together. The shared reading initiative encourages families to read, talk and scrapbook about a book, improving communication and enriching relationships with books and each other - one page at a time, no matter the distance, still together.



Little Troopers

Little Troopers is a registered charity founded in 2011 which supports all children where one or both parents are serving in the British Armed Forces (regular or reserve) and recognise the daily and unique challenges faced by forces children. They provide resources to help ease and support children through periods of separation. They also have initiatives to help keep the serving parent/s connected despite the distance between them. Little Troopers is a community which comes together to celebrate how special these children are.

