



# The Garrison ASSIST Project EMBED

December 2024

Dear parents/carers,

I would like to introduce myself as the project lead for the Catterick schools' **Garrison ASSIST Project (GAP)** and give you a brief summary of the project's plans for this academic year.

GAP has been running across six of the Garrison's schools, along with Leeming (RAF) Community Primary, for the past two academic years, with funding through the *Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust*. It has an ambitious, but important, mission:

## Vision

**We want to ensure that provision for SEND children & young people on the Garrison is the best it can be. To achieve this, our group of schools will work towards a consistent approach, and through our dedicated teams of highly trained and knowledgeable staff, we will ensure no time is wasted putting in place appropriate support for our SEND Service pupils.**

Much has been achieved to date. Two researchers from the University of Winchester undertook an in-depth evaluation of the project last June and their recently published report clearly evidences much impact. However, they recognise the need to **embed** some of the changes we have collectively worked on, whilst spreading the word of the successes beyond Catterick Garrison.

Funding has recently been secured for this academic year from the *Armed Forces Education Trust* charity. On the next page, I have added an infographic summarising the strands of work that this year's action plan will cover. Whilst the project originally stemmed from a collective desire to support mobile SEND children from Armed Forces families, due to the funding coming through Armed Forces charities, the work we are undertaking will benefit **all** SEND children within our schools.

In the spring term, I would like to set up an **Armed Forces SEND parents' working party** consisting of two or three parent/carer representatives from each project school. The working party's main aim will be to work with me, and project schools, to establish a 'Parent / School Engagement protocol' (or Charter). The plan is that this would be adopted by all project schools and will lay out how parents and schools will work together to support SEND pupils. If this is something you would be interested in, please let your school SENCO know so that she can forward your contact details to me.

If you have any further questions or would like further details about the project, please speak with your school's Headteacher or SENCO, in the first instance. I can also be contacted via [garrisonassistproject@gmail.com](mailto:garrisonassistproject@gmail.com) although please note that I only do a day's project work a week, so replies may take a few days.

Kind regards,

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## SUMMARY OF GAP EMBED'S 7 STRANDS

