

PE1603/K

East Renfrewshire Council Email of 11 October 2016

I have gathered the views of Head Teacher colleagues and officers within the authority prior to responding.

1. Visits by the Armed Forces are not frequent in our schools. In primary schools this is extremely rare. On a very odd occasion parents who have served in the Armed Forces may be asked to attend Remembrance Services as invited guests. In our secondary schools Armed Forces are invited along to Careers Fairs, along with a range of other potential employers. Given the infrequency of these visits we would be reluctant to add a layer of bureaucracy to the process. We would also be concerned about the governance of such guidance.
2. Again, within our context this would almost always be a nil return, however when we do have potential employers in our schools, including the Armed Forces, we would be reluctant to add an additional workload burden (please see above).
3. Again, within our local context there are no “armed forces activities” as such (please see number 1). I think the age and context would have to be considered before approving the suggestion of consultation. For example at Careers Fairs many of the young people are of an age of consent, consequently who do you consult with and what if young people’s views differ from their parents/carers. It should also be stressed that consultation is about gathering views. Schools are skilled at gathering the views of parents for a wide range of issues, particularly with issues relating to the specific context of a school and its community.

Kind regards

Janice

Janice Collins
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