



The Garrison ASSIST Project

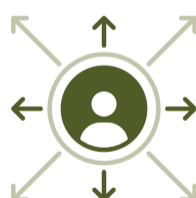
OUR CHARTER FOR WORKING WITH PARENTS FROM MILITARY FAMILIES

THE FOLLOWING AGREEMENT WAS CREATED IN 2025 IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PROJECT'S PARENTAL WORKING PARTY



In our partnership with parents, GAP schools adopt the following principles:

- We endeavour to empathise with the challenges often associated with a military lifestyle.
- We try and put you at ease when dealing with staff, appreciating parental needs.
- We respect your views as you are an expert on your child.
- We don't work on the assumption that we are the experts, and will approach each child's unique experience with curiosity and not assumption or bias.
- We avoid judging you.
- We actively listen with an open mind to try and understand your point of view.
- We try and provide a listening ear when this will be helpful.
- We signpost you to sources of information, advice and guidance.
- We are honest and transparent in our work with you, communicating clearly and promptly.
- We think carefully about the language we use, trying to avoid stigmatising assumptions and stereotypes.
- We place a high priority on meaningfully supporting any transition your child faces.
- We relentlessly chase missing records from your child's previous schools.
- We commit to progressive learning, critical reflection, and actively keeping up to date our understanding of trauma, neurodivergence, SEND, and the impact of deployment.
- We understand that behaviour is a form of communication, easily mis-interpretable and often reflecting unmet needs - which requires our curiosity and consideration.
- We recognise the stresses experienced by families in finding support for their children, and the role schools may play in contributing to that.
- We are flexible in our approaches, recognising individuals' needs.
- When we say we'll do something, we'll do our best to do it.



In return, we request the following from parents:

- Respectful, open and honest dialogue.
- A willingness to work with us.
- Transparency and honesty.
- An appreciation that sometimes national / local policy or funding restricts us.
- Timely information that may have an impact on your child, such as pending deployments.
- Your kindness and understanding in letting us know if you think we are getting something wrong, and why.
- Your patience and understanding that we have many competing priorities, and many children to care for.
- An acceptance that sometimes we may have to simply 'agree to disagree'.