

EDUCATIONAL CLEARANCE

All parents need to obtain educational clearance for their children before proceeding with a move overseas.

Educational Clearance for areas with an SCE school (Germany, Cyprus, Brunei, The Falklands, Naples, SHAPE, Afnorth)

Schools need to be able to plan for the arrival of new pupils. To assist with this process it is essential that you contact the SCE school in the location of your overseas posting as soon as possible. The SCE school will ask you for some information about your child(ren) and seek your permission to contact your child(ren)'s current school to obtain a summary of your child(ren)'s educational progress. On receipt of this information the SCE school will complete the Educational Clearance form and return it to you so that you can forward it to the Families Section.

If your child has special educational needs or a disability which requires SEN support in school or advice from other professionals such as medical or social care you must register your child with CEAS and an MOD Assessment of Supportability Overseas (MASO) will be carried out. The main purpose of the MASO is to enable agencies to plan how to meet children's needs prior to their arrival and ensure that the appropriate resources are available overseas. In those rare cases where children have needs which cannot be met overseas, you will be advised not to proceed with the posting. The outcome of the MASO will be communicated to parents through the chain of command and where the outcome is positive, the letter from the chain of command will confirm Educational Clearance. It is important to register with CEAS as early as possible to enable advice to be given in a timely manner.

The availability of educational, medical and social care facilities to support children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) is different in overseas commands and varies between commands. You can find more information about the resources available to pupils in SCE schools by looking at the schools' SEN offers.

Details for SCE schools can be found at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/sce-school-websites

Educational Clearance for areas where there is no SCE school

Where no SCE school exists, CEAS will assist the family in determining what steps need to be taken to ensure that suitable educational provision can be made in the intended overseas location. Further details can be found in JSP 820 Part 2. Prior to confirming travel arrangements for families in these circumstances, the Families Section will require families to have completed and submitted a **Parental Declaration Form** which CEAS will provide on request.

Further information about CEAS is available at: www.gov.uk/childrens-education-advisory-service

Educational Clearance for pupils with special needs or disabilities who are under statutory school age

Children under statutory school who have SEND should also be registered with CEAS so that parents can be advised about and participate in the SEND supportability checking arrangements which apply to the intended overseas location.