



Great Heath Academy

We, the undersigned, commit to honour the Armed Forces Covenant and support the Armed Forces Community. We recognise the value Serving Personnel, both Regular and Reservists, Veterans and Military Families contribute to our business and our country.

Signed on behalf of:
Ministry of Defence

Signed on behalf of:
Great Heath Academy

Name: Wing Commander Andy Kime
Position: Commanding Officer 605 Squadron
RAuxAF

Position: Executive Principal

Date: 2 July 2019

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**Ministry
of Defence**



The Armed Forces Covenant

An Enduring Covenant Between

The People of the United Kingdom

Her Majesty's Government

and

All those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces of the Crown

And their Families

The first duty of Government is the defence of the realm. Our Armed Forces fulfil that responsibility on behalf of the Government, sacrificing some civilian freedoms, facing danger and, sometimes, suffering serious injury or death as a result of their duty. Families also play a vital role in supporting the operational effectiveness of our Armed Forces. In return, the whole nation has a moral obligation to the members of the Naval Service, the Army and the Royal Air Force, together with their families. They deserve our respect and support, and fair treatment.

Those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services. Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most such as the injured and the bereaved.

This obligation involves the whole of society: it includes voluntary and charitable bodies, private organisations, and the actions of individuals in supporting the Armed Forces. Recognising those who have performed military duty unites the country and demonstrates the value of their contribution. This has no greater expression than in upholding this Covenant.

Section 1: Principles of the Armed Forces Covenant

1.1 We Great Heath Academy will endeavour in our business dealings to uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, which are:

- *No member of the Armed Forces Community should face disadvantage in the provision of public and commercial services compared to any other citizen;*
- *In some circumstances special treatment may be appropriate especially for the injured or bereaved.*

Section 2: Demonstrating our Commitment

2.1 Great Heath Academy recognises the value Serving Personnel, Reservists, Veterans and Military Families bring to our business. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:

- *We actively promote Remembrance to our pupils and to the wider community by participating in the act of Remembrance and support The Royal British Legion. We hold a Remembrance service at the academy led by The Royal British Legion to remember the Community of Great Heath Academy fallen in World War 2 and all who fell in the past and present wars;*
- *Students and staff actively promote and participate in Remembrance Service at Mildenhall Cenotaph organised by The Royal British Legion by laying a wreath in memory of all of the fallen. Our young people are also honoured to actively participate in the Remembrance Service;*
- *We seek to provide additional pastoral support and help to children of Serving Personnel, Veterans, Regulars, Reservists and Military Families. This is particularly important due to the high number of USAF Service children at Great Heath Academy;*
- *We promote the fact that we are an Armed Forces-friendly organisation;*
- *We strive to support the employment of Service spouses and partners;*
- *We endeavour to offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment;*

- *We seek to support our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve Forces, including by accommodating their training and deployment where possible;*
- *We offer support to our local cadet units in our local community or in local schools, where possible;*
- *We aim to actively participate in Armed Forces Day.*

2.2 We will publicise these commitments through our literature and/or on our website, setting out how we will seek to honour them and inviting feedback from the Service community, our students and their families, staff and Governors on how we are doing.