

How can I find out more information about the MASO?

For all overseas areas with MoD Schools you can contact the EPAS Office and/or SEND Services for further general information or specific details about a MASO.

For all other overseas areas, you can contact the Children's Education Advisory Service (CEAS).

Useful Websites:

DCYP/MoD Schools

www.gov.uk/government/publications/sce-school-admissions-pack

PIP

www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-information-profile-for-military-service-children

CEAS

www.gov.uk/childrens-education-advisory-service

Educational Psychology & Advisory Specialists (EPAS)

EPAS, Directorate Children & Young People
Top Floor, B Block
Episkopi
BFPO 53

Tel: 00357 2596 3208
Mil: 94120 3208

Email: DCYP-EPAS-GpMailbox@mod.gov.uk

SEND Services

Directorate Children & Young People
Trenchard Lines
Upavon, Pewsey
Wiltshire, SN9 6BE

Tel: 0044 1980 618230
Mil: 94344 8230

Children's Education Advisory Service

CEAS, Directorate Children & Young People
Trenchard Lines
Upavon, Pewsey
Wiltshire, SN9 6BE

Tel: 0044 1980 618244
Mil: 94344 8244

Email: DCYP-CEAS-Enquiries@mod.gov.uk



Ministry
of Defence

Directorate Children and Young People

MOD ASSESSMENT OF SUPPORTABILITY OVERSEAS (MASO)

Information for parents

This leaflet outlines the process to be followed for assessing the supportability of children with special educational needs or disabilities prior to an overseas assignment, in accordance with JSP 770.

What is a MASO?

The MASO is a process for assessing whether all the help required for a child with additional needs is available in an overseas command. The MASO also gives education, health and social care teams time to prepare for the child's arrival.

Who is the MASO for?

The MASO is for any child who:

- Has support in a school or setting because of special educational needs or a disability (SEND).
- Has current involvement from other agencies such as health or social care.
- Has an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP), a Statement of Special Educational Needs, a SCAN Support Plan, a Coordinated Support Plan (Scotland) or an Individual Development Plan (Wales).
- Has needs emerging whilst overseas which may not be supportable.

How do I start the MASO process?

All children travelling overseas require Educational Clearance.

For all overseas areas with MOD Schools you must follow the DCYP admissions process in order to gain Educational Clearance. Through this process, if a MASO is required, the MOD school will instigate this on your behalf.

For all other overseas areas, you must contact Children's Education Advisory Service (CEAS) and complete a Parental Declaration form in order to gain Educational Clearance.

Who is involved in the MASO?

The MASO should involve professionals from education, health and social care with similar responsibilities to those working with your child in the UK. This will include:

- The destination Chain of Command.
- Education:
- MoD School Head Teacher and SENDCo.
 - Educational Psychology and Advisory Specialist (EPAS) team and SEND Services.
- Health & Social Care (as appropriate):
- GP.
 - Child Health team.
 - Child and Adolescent Mental Health.
 - Speech and Language Therapy.
 - Social Care (if they are currently involved with your child).

What information is needed for the MASO?

The most recent reports and assessments from your child's school and any other professionals who are working with your child (e.g. Speech & Language Therapy, Educational Psychology, outreach workers or CAMHS). If you are applying to a MoD School, you should also request that your child's current school sends a copy of the Pupil Information Profile (PIP) plus the most recent reports to the MoD school.

Who makes the decision about the MASO?

The professionals overseas will consider the reports you have provided about your child and advise the Chain of Command whether his/her needs can be met overseas. The Chain of Command make the final decision and notify you of the outcome of the process.

How long will the MASO take?

A MASO can take up to 9 weeks to complete, so it is important to begin the process as soon as you know that you may be posted.

Important Note: You should not proceed with your posting until you have heard the outcome of the MASO process.

How can I find out what services are available overseas?

MOD Schools publish their SEND provision on their individual websites.

Each overseas command should publish a command offer which describes the range of services available in each command for children with SEND.

What if I am not happy with the decision?

You may appeal the decision, and this can be pursued in writing through the Chain of Command.

Are many families advised not to move overseas?

Families will only be advised not to take up an overseas posting when there is clear evidence that the resources to meet their child's needs cannot be made available or they would be disadvantaged by a posting overseas.

Early knowledge of your child's needs will help services to prepare for your child's arrival overseas and ensure continuity of education, health and social care provision.