

How can I find out more information about the MASO?

You can contact CEAS or any of the DCYP Local Teams for further general information or specific details about a MASO.

Useful Websites:

CEAS

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

DCYP/MOD Schools

www.gov.uk/government/publications/sc-e-school-admissions-pack

PIP

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

Local DCYP Teams

Episkopi

DCYP
B Block
Episkopi
BFPO 53
Tel: 00 357 2596 3208

Gutersloh

DCYP
Block 19
Mansergh Barracks
BFPO 113
Tel: 0049 5241 84 2399

Paderborn

DCYP
Building 3
Dempsey Barracks
BFPO 16
Tel: 0049 5254 982 4904

Children's Education Advisory Service

Directorate Children and Young People
Trenchard Lines
Upavon
Pewsey
Wiltshire
SN9 6BE
Tel: 0044 1980 618244



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 prior to an overseas assignment, in accordance with Chapter 2A in 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 needs or a disability
- 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).

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 usually involved in the MASO?

Always the destination Chain of Command

In Education:

The MOD school Head teacher

The MOD school SENCO

The MOD Educational Psychologist

In Health (as appropriate):

The GP

The 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 to carry out the MASO?

The most recent reports and assessments from your child's school and any other professionals who are working with your child. 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 in the receiving overseas setting 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 will make the final decision and will 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.

Please 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 SEN 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 special needs or disabilities.

What if I am not happy with the decision?

You have the right to 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 essential needs cannot be made available 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.