



Supporting children's education

Defence Community Organisation

Education Liaison Officers

Education Liaison Officers, give education support to Defence families as they move around the country, providing information, advice, referral and specialised assistance.

Education Liaison Officers are part of Defence Community Organisation's education advisory service, designed to inform, prepare and empower Defence families when they are relocating and changing schools.

Education Liaison Officers are located in each state and territory and have extensive knowledge about the local schools and education systems as well as the unique needs of Defence children.

To contact your nearest Education Liaison Officer, contact the Defence Family Helpline on **1800 624 608** or email defencefamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au.

The role of the Education Liaison Officer

The assistance they provide to families includes:

- informing families about local schools and education systems,
- working with parents, students and teachers to manage the transition to a new location and school,
- linking families with special education providers, resources or support agencies according to their children's individual needs (including special needs students),
- working with schools to ensure a supportive educational environment and to raise awareness of issues facing Defence children, and
- informing families about Defence support services available, including financial assistance entitlements under the Education Assistance Scheme.

Due to their understanding of both the Defence lifestyle and the different state and territory education systems, Education Liaison Officers also advise Defence and key education authorities on the current needs of Defence students, and contribute to education policy.

Further education assistance

Defence Community Organisation offers a wide range of other education support services for Defence children, including in-school support staff, financial assistance for some education costs incurred by relocation and resources for relocating students.

Defence Community Organisation offers a wide range of support services for the families of ADF members.

For more information and resources about relocating your school age child and the different state and territory school systems, visit the 'kids' education' page on the [DCO website](#).

For more information on this factsheet and other Defence Community Organisation support services visit www.defence.gov.au/dco or contact the all-hours Defence Family Helpline on **1800 624 608** or email defencefamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au

