



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:

Yeovil College

Signed:

Name: Mark Bolton

Position: CEO and Principal

Date: 06/09/22



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

Yeovil College 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

Yeovil College recognises the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our business and to our country. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:

- *Promoting the fact that we are an Armed Forces friendly organisation. Seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old through seeking to work with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP) to advertise in the Armed Forces community, to support raising awareness of employment opportunities we have available to veterans.*
- *Welcoming Applications from veterans who meet the essential criteria in the job specification.*
- *Supporting the employment of Service spouses and partners by seeking to advertise vacancies on Forces Families Jobs and welcoming applications from spouses/partners who meet the criteria in the job specifications.*
- *Endeavouring to offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave for services spouses or partners and where appropriate close family, before, during and after a partner's or close family member's deployment.*
- *Supporting our employees who are already members of the Reserve Force, including by accommodating their training and deployment where possible.*
- *Offering support to cadet units in our local community where possible.*
- *Aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces Day and Remembrance activities with our college community.*