

How can I find out more information about the MASO?

You can get more information from CEAS or from any of the SCE Pupil and Family Services Team.

**Useful Websites:**

**CEAS**

[www.gov.uk/childrens-education-advisory-service](http://www.gov.uk/childrens-education-advisory-service)

**SCE**

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/SCE-school-admissions-pack](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/SCE-school-admissions-pack)

**PIP**

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-information-profile-for-military-service-children](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-information-profile-for-military-service-children)

**Pupil & Family Services Teams**

**Episkopi**

Pupil & Family Services  
Service Children's Education  
B Block  
Episkopi  
BFPO 53  
Tel: 00 357 2596 3208

**Gutersloh**

Pupil & Family Services  
Block 19  
Mansergh Barracks  
BFPO 113  
Tel: 0049 5241 84 2399

**Paderborn**

Pupil & Family Services  
Building 3  
Dempsey Barracks  
BFPO 16  
Tel: 0049 5254 982 4904

**Children's Education Advisory Service**

Portacabin 8  
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 (EHC) Plan, a Statement of Special Educational Needs or a Coordinated Support Plan.

### How do I start the MASO process?

You must register your child with the Children's Education Advisory Service (CEAS) and send them copies of all the recent reports on your child. For areas with SCE schools, follow the SCE admissions process.

### Who is involved in the MASO?

Apart from the overseas school, the MASO will involve professionals from education, health and social care with similar responsibilities to those working with your child in the UK.

This will usually include:

Education staff: Head of the school or setting, the Educational Psychologist;

Health services: GP, Child Health team, Child and Adolescent Mental Health, Speech and Language Therapy;  
Social care: if they are currently involved with your child as well as the destination Chain of Command.

### 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 SCE 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 SCE 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 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 process.

### How can I find out what services are available overseas?

Each overseas command will publish a command offer which describes the range of services available in each command for children with special needs or disabilities. Additionally, Service Children's Education (SCE) schools publish their SEN offer on their individual websites.

### What if the right help is not available?

You will be informed if any services needed by your child are not available overseas and advised whether your child's need can be met. Your chain of command will make the final decision about whether your posting will go ahead.

### What if I am not happy with the decision?

You have the right to appeal the decision of any individual service (health, education or social care) that is unable to provide support from within its locally available resources. This should be pursued through the individual service's complaints procedure.

### Are many families advised not to move overseas?

The majority of families have a positive outcome from the MASO process. 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. You will only be advised not to take up an overseas posting when there is clear evidence that the resources to meet your child's essential needs cannot be made available overseas.