



Reflection points

Militarisation in the UK and in education

1. Some schools hold “camo days” where every children come to school in a military uniform

TRUE – They raise money for a charity that helps serving military and their families.

2. Most children involved in military ethos activities in school say they never have any fun.

FALSE - The activities can be a lot of fun for people - they'd put people off the military if was all horrible.

3. Britain has invaded nearly half the countries in the world

FALSE - Britain has invaded 4/5 or 171/196 countries through history.

4. The UK government has spent more money on cadets in school than on peace education.

TRUE - An extra £50 million in 2015 has been spent on cadets, but nothing on peace education, though teachers still do really good work.

5. By law, schools have to present the army as “the best and bravest in the world”.

FALSE - Schools are supposed to present a balanced views of controversial topics under the 1996 Education Act.

6. Some schools are sponsored by the companies who make weapons.

TRUE – Some state funded academies for 14 – 18 year olds are sponsored by arms companies including Chemring, Qinetia and BAE systems. Some are also sponsored by the army itself, e.g. in Wiltshire a school is sponsored by the 43rd Wessex Brigade.

7. Schools have to provide personal information about pupils to army recruiters.

FALSE – They tried but were refused access, though this already happens in the United States of America.

8. Britain recruits children into the army.

TRUE – International law says you are a child until 18, but people in Britain can join the military from 16, though they won't be sent to fight until 18. When they do, they experience higher casualty levels.