

Rear Admiral Keith E Blount CB OBE FRAeS

Rear Admiral Fleet Air Arm

Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Aviation, Amphibious Capability & Carriers)



Keith Blount joined the Royal Navy in 1984 as a helicopter pilot. He received his wings in 1986, and was awarded the Bell Davies trophy as the top student pilot of his year. He was a front line aviator at the age of 20. Through a varied flying career, he qualified as an instructor and flew in the Royal Navy Helicopter Display Team.

Blount has blended his aviation experience with a broad span of Command. He has commanded three warships, including the helicopter carrier HMS OCEAN and was the Iraqi Maritime Task Group Commander during Operation TELIC. Most recently, he was the United Kingdom's Maritime Component Commander, based in Bahrain. The period spanned Operations in Syria and Iraq.

His staff appointments have included three periods in the Ministry of Defence and his last London assignment was as Military Assistant to the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Defence Studies, was appointed OBE in 2012, CB in 2018 and is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society. He is the President of the Royal Navy Winter Sports Association and the Royal Navy Hang gliding and Paragliding Association.

He assumed duties as Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Aviation, Amphibious Capability and Carriers) and Rear Admiral Fleet Air Arm in May 2015.