

Dear Parent / Guardian,

National Citizen Service (NCS) is an once-in-a-lifetime experience that your teenager will never forget. NCS runs for 4 weeks and is a Government-backed, youth social action programme open to young people aged 15-17. 275,000 young people have taken part in NCS to date and summer 2017 will be your teenagers chance to get involved. It is a brilliant opportunity for them to gain new life skills, live away from home and really make their CV stand out from the crowd. The programme is also recognised by universities and will really boost their UCAS application!

### So what does it involve?

#### **Phase 1**

A five day, four-night residential based away from home with amazing activities such as canoeing, rock-climbing, archery and giant swing. A chance to meet new people and enjoy some adventure, fun and freedom!

#### **Phase 2**

A further five days in a Uni- style environment where you'll develop life skills like confidence, leadership and communication to boost your CV or UCAS personal statement.

#### **Phase 3**

Working in teams, you'll put your new skills into practice by delivering a community project of your choice. You won't believe the transformation a few days can make.

#### **Graduation**

You and your mates will get together to celebrate your achievements. NCS opens up a world of opportunities, giving you exclusive access to work placements, volunteering and events.

**Week 1 - Adventure:** Your son / daughter will be picked up from the local area (pick up points will be confirmed during the parents meetings) and taken to PGL - the UK's largest outdoor activity company. They will be in teams of 15 with NCS staff and qualified activity instructors. They are not forced to do any activities that they do not want to do – however we will encourage them to take a step out of their comfort zone and build their self-confidence! We provide all meals, transport and accommodation during phase 1.

**Week 2 - Skills:** This is all about building skills and becoming more independent. We will be based at a local University and undertaking workshops such as; first aid qualification, dragons den, leadership, money management, public speaking, lip sync battle and much more! They have the support of their team mates and once again transport, meals and accommodation are provided.

**Week 3 and 4 – Social Action:** Using their new found skills participants will plan and run their own social action projects to make a difference in their local area. A few examples of community projects that NCS teams have run in the past; Sleep out's and food banks to raise awareness of homelessness, blindfolded sports tournaments to raise awareness of visual impairment, regeneration projects at care homes and community fun days to raise money for local charities. The possibilities are endless. This is their chance to make a positive, lasting impact on their local area.

**Graduation:** You will be invited along to a graduation event, which will take place once your son / daughter has completed NCS. It is a great way for them to show you what they have achieved and see what is available to them now they have finished.

#### **Provisional course dates;**

Wave 1) Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – 4 week programme (weekends off)

Wave 2) Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July – 4 week programme (weekends off)

**There are different dates available if you can't attend any of these**



## How much does it cost?

NCS is amazing value for money – the whole experience will cost you just **£50**. Why? Because the programme is backed by the government, which invests more than £1,200 per place. No one should ever be prevented from taking part in NCS for financial reasons, which is why financial assistance is available.

## How to get involved

If you have filled out an expression of interest form you will be receiving a phone call from an 0330 number. This is where you can ask any questions and pay over the phone or if you don't want to wait please call us on 0330 414 2504. If you are needing a bursary please discuss this over the phone.

## What happens next?

You will get an email to confirm the place on NCS and the programme delivery team will be in touch in the new year to invite you to a parents evening, run some teambuilding days and provide you with programme specific information to ensure that your teenager has an amazing NCS experience.

To find out more please visit [www.ncsyes.co.uk](http://www.ncsyes.co.uk)

Best wishes

Grace Pearse (NCS Recruitment Co-ordinator) 07795643352

