

LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

At the present time face to face extra-curricular activities have been put on hold. No training for the new recruits will happen until this embargo has been lifted. The purpose of this letter is to inform you about how the CCF operates under more normal times and to ask you to complete an application form if your son/daughter is interested. Subscriptions have also been suspended so no payments will be requested until face to face meetings resume. By completing the application form we will know the uniform to order and who to contact in the future. Application and Consent forms may be downloaded using the below link.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yailXmpUak-kTNUsl0VxvDN349902-BBrcJue-5a25ZUMUEzRzIXMTE3U1ZGSVFFQlhFVExWVzVVMC4u>

LRGS runs a successful and well attended Combined Cadet Force comprising Royal Naval, Army and Royal Air Force Sections. Recruits are accepted from LGGS. Pupils are eligible to join the CCF at the end of year 8 in order to start training from September in Year 9.

Our adult volunteers pride themselves on the delivery of valuable skills which benefit boys and girls in whatever walk of life that they choose to follow. All CCF sections offer a range of activities, including discipline and drill, first aid, navigation, shooting (in the school's own indoor range) and adventurous training. Whilst the medium for our training is military skills and the MOD provides most of our uniform, equipment and financial grants, I must emphasise that the CCF is not a recruitment tool for the MOD. However, exposure to military ethos and training techniques will be invaluable to those who are considering a career in the Armed Forces.

As well as attending the weekly activities, cadets are encouraged to go on camps and courses with their respective service and complete leadership training courses. Cadets from all 3 sections are invited to the annual Easter adventure training camp which may involve coasteering, abseiling, canoeing and raft building amongst others.

RN cadets have gone on sailing and sub-aqua courses with the Royal Navy, and have been aboard naval vessels whilst they were at sea. They have sailed on Pine Lake, Rutland Water, and had opportunities to compete in numerous regattas. A highly successful annual watermanship visit to Southport has been introduced.

Cadets in the Army Section focus more on safe weapon handling, shooting and tactical training and attend many field and range camps throughout the year. They shoot on the school's own range. The highlight is a week spent at annual camp which usually involves an overnight blank firing exercise, shooting and the assault course amongst other activities. Army Cadets have the opportunity to attend a wide range of courses including adventure training and leadership courses. Bronze and Gold Duke of Edinburgh awards are also available through the Army section.

The RAF section offers cadets the chance to engage in a range of activities that will enhance their ability to work in a team and to develop their leadership skills. They will get the chance to fly in a Grob Tutor two seater aircraft with the experienced pilots of an Air Experience Flight. This combined with ground school tutoring in a flight simulator will enable cadets to earn a coveted pair of "wings". There are plenty of opportunities to learn about other aviation related topics and skills such as map reading and aviation navigation, radio communications, shooting, first aid, drill and problem-solving exercises. There is an annual camp at an RAF base, where cadets will learn about many facets of life and operations of the RAF as well as partake in a range of adventurous activities such as coasteering, abseiling and canoeing.

Teams lessons will be provided for cadets who have already served for a year. When normal service resumes CCF training takes place at LRGS from 3.30 pm to about 5 pm on Tuesdays, so that it does not interfere with schoolwork or homework. Whilst it is the adult volunteers that ensure a spectrum of skills are taught, it is the senior cadets who deliver most of the training; consequently, those cadets who attain NCO status gain further opportunities for self development. In addition to the weekly training and the summer camps, there is the opportunity to attend a training camp once a term. The overnight camps are organised to give cadets an opportunity to practise the skills and techniques that have been taught over the previous weeks. Whilst some of the training days do take place in term time, dates are arranged to minimise the impact on their studies.

Although the CCF activities are heavily subsidised by the MOD, there are additional costs that need to be met. Cadets are charged an annual £40 subscription (reduced to £35 if paid in the first term). This covers the cost of items of equipment and insurance not provided by the MOD and expenses such as badges and awards. A one-off uniform deposit of £40 is also charged and will be returned when the full uniform is returned, clean and in good condition. **Both payments are required before uniform may be collected.** Other costs that you can expect from CCF activities are around £150-£300 for week-long summer and Easter camps and around £20 for short courses and exercises. All payments are to be made electronically through either the LRGS Wisepay or LGGS Parentpay systems, no cheque or cash payments will be accepted. For those using Parentpay please bring along a printed proof of purchase when you come to collect your uniform.

If your son or daughter would like to join the CCF please complete and return the attached form to the RSM as soon as possible. Y9 LGGS places in the Army section are limited, if you apply for one of these we will let you know at the start of next year if you have been successful. We also require permission to hold the most basic records on a MOD database. Please be assured that the minimum amount of information will be held for accountability purposes. The final aspect of the form is to make the CCF volunteers aware of any health issues that may need to be acted upon when the cadets are training away from the school premises.

The staff and I very much enjoy the opportunity to use the CCF to foster qualities of self-reliance, leadership, responsibility and a sense of public service, all whilst having a little bit of fun! We are always in need of additional help so if you are interested in joining the ranks of the adult team then please contact me. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask me or other members of the CCF team.

Yours sincerely,

David Rowe
Lt. Col. Dr.
Contingent Commander LRGS CCF

