



THE SUMMER OF YOUR LIFE: NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE

Dear Parent / Guardian,

National Citizen Service spoke to the students at Cannock Chase High School today and we want to give you some more information about an opportunity that is waiting for them in summer 2018.

NCS has been running since 2011 and now has nearly half a million graduates across the country! Summer 2018 is your son / daughter's opportunity to get involved and really shape their future.

This is a once in a lifetime experience that your teenager will never forget. GCSE's will be over and NCS is the perfect way to celebrate and learn new skills outside of the classroom. Best of all NCS is a government-funded programme and you will never contribute more than **£50** for the entire 4 weeks!

Last year over 4,000 year 11 and 12 students from across the West Midlands took part in NCS and with their support as graduates we are making this summer better than ever before!

So what does the programme involve?

Week 1: Adventure

A chance to let off some steam, take a step out of your comfort zone and get stuck in with a variety of awesome activities on a 5 day residential experience at one of the UK's largest outdoor activity centres. Transport, meals and accommodation are all provided.

Week 2: Discovery

A further five days in a university style environment where you will develop life skills like confidence, leadership and teamwork. Learn how to live independently and discover new skills in surroundings completely different to school or college.

Weeks 3 & 4: Action

Working in teams, you'll put your new skills into practice by planning and delivering a community project of your choice in your local area. This is your opportunity to make a lasting positive impact on something close to home. You can base this around your interests.

Celebration

Come back together as a team to relive the memories and celebrate your achievements. Pick up your certificate signed by the prime minister and find out about additional opportunities now you are an NCS graduate. We have youth boards and even job opportunities.

Week 1: Adventure (5 days, 4 nights)

Your son / daughter will be picked up from the local area (pick up points will be confirmed during the parents meetings). They will be in teams of 15 with a few friends, NCS staff and qualified activity instructors. They will be living in tented villages – but do not worry because there are beds in the tents! We call it posh camping. There are also proper toilets and shower facilities. Young people are never forced to do any activities that they do not want to do – however it is great to see them build their self-confidence! In the evenings we have live music acts, talent shows and the chance to chill out with mates or have a kick about. We also cater for all dietary requirements.

Week 2: Discovery (5 days, 4 nights)

We will be based at a local university campus in student halls of residence, undertaking workshops such as; first aid qualification, apprentice challenge, money management, inspirational speaker, disability sports, interview skills, learn to cook and much more! Young people have the support of their team mates and once again transport, meals and accommodation are provided. In the evenings we have lip sync battles, movie nights and the chance to put their feet up.

Weeks 3 & 4: Action (Monday's – Friday's)

Using their new found skills each team will plan and then run their own social action project to make a difference in the 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.





Celebration

We will round off the NCS experience with a celebration at a local venue which will be confirmed closer to the time. Bring along a guest to show off what you have achieved and pick up your certificate signed by the prime minister. We will welcome you in to the NCS Graduates club and you can find out about further opportunities such as Youth Boards, Media campaigns and Summer Mentor job roles. Use the certificate to boost your CV's, UCAS applications and to really stand out from the crowd at a job interview.

How much does it cost?

NCS is amazing value for money – the whole experience will cost you a maximum of **£50**. (This also includes transport, meals and accommodation during week's 1 & 2). Why? Because the programme is backed by the government, which invests £1500 per place. No one should ever be prevented from taking part in NCS for financial reasons, which is why financial assistance is available. If this does apply to you please make our contact centre aware of your personal circumstances and they will discuss bursary options with you.

How to get involved

Please call 0330 414 2504 (Monday – Friday 9am – 9pm) to find out more and confirm your place on NCS. You can also visit our website ncsy.es.co.uk

We have multiple start dates running in your local area this summer. You will be able to pick one that best suits you during the phone call. You will also be able to confirm any friends who you would like to be grouped with.

Once signed up you will be invited to a parent's information evening, a teambuilding session and you will receive your free NCS merchandise too!

Thank you for taking the time to find out more about NCS and we cannot wait to see you in the summer!

To find out more please visit www.ncsy.es.co.uk

Best wishes

Nicole Terry (NCS Recruitment Co-ordinator)

WHY SAY YES?

- UCAS recommends students include NCS in their personal statement
- You learn the skills employers value
- Learn to budget and live for yourself
- Meet incredible people
- Get your voice heard!

UCAS

JADE'S STORY

"She met some wonderful people which she's still in contact with now, like a big family! She came back from that a very confident person. I'm proud, extremely proud".

Karen, parent of Jade, NCS grad

JERMAIN'S STORY

"I loved NCS - going away in the summer, getting to meet new friends. Being able to speak in front of people was very daunting to me at a young age, NCS has developed that skill of confidence."

Jermain Jackman, NCS grad and winner of The Voice 2014

LIBBY'S STORY

"I couldn't believe the difference in her when she came back, it was amazing. She was raring to go. It's given her the confidence to be more independent".

Rebecca, parent of Libby, NCS grad