



Volunteer Cadet Corps

Portsmouth Volunteer Cadet Corps
Royal Naval and Royal Marines Cadets
Alamein Block
HMS EXCELLENT
Whale Island
PORTSMOUTH
PO2 8ER

Military: 93832 7495
Telephone: 023 9254 7495

Email: vcc.ports.dofe@royalnavymail.mod.uk
www: www.meetthechallenge.org

VCC/POR/G7

See distribution

24 Jan 17

NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE

Sponsor: DofE Training Lead

Introduction

1. National Citizen Service (NCS) gives all 16 and 17 year olds the chance to take part in activities that build skills for work and life whilst they take on new challenges and meet new friends. It brings together young people from different backgrounds and helps them develop greater confidence, self-awareness and responsibility and encourages personal and social development by working on skills such as leadership, teamwork and communication; important skills that colleges, universities and employer's value. Indeed the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) recommends that students include NCS in their personal statement.

What does it entail?

2. NCS is delivered in the Portsmouth area by Pompey in the Community. Five 'Waves' run weekly throughout the summer with the first commencing 26 Jun 17 and the final on 24 Jul 17. Each Wave takes place over a 4 week period and is broken down into three phases; Adventure, Future and Make your Mark.

- Adventure
 - The first phase involves living with a team of 12 to 15 people at an outdoor activity centre near Swanage in Dorset. It takes places over 4 nights and 5 days and participants will get the chance to take on some adrenaline-fuelled challenges such as rock climbing, kayaking and coastering.
- Future
 - The next phase is based closer to home. During this time the teams will undertake different workshops, held a Fort Purbrook to learn skills that are not taught in the classroom. These could include; Media, Sports Coaching, Performing Arts, Wood Work and Carpentry and Food, Technology and Arts. This phase also lasts for 4 nights and 5 days and teams will live in a university campus environment.
- Make your Mark
 - The final phase will see the teams take on a project in the local community. The exact scope to the project will be left to the teams to decide, but previous NCS teams have renovated community centres or spruced up public gardens. Participants will live at home during this 2 week element

which is operated from the Pompey in the Community Study Centre, close to the Fratton Park stadium.

3. Those who successfully complete the NCS course will attend a Graduation Ceremony where family and friends are invited to see the new NCS Graduates presented with a certificate signed by the Prime Minister.

Course Dates

4. Those cadets who intend to take part in the VCC Annual Summer Camp (5 to 13 Aug 17) will need to apply for the NCS courses commencing 26 Jun 17 or 3 Jul 17.

Costs

5. The training received at NCS is worth approximately £1,500. The Government fund the vast majority of the package reducing the cost to the individual to £50, which Pompey in the Community subsidise further to lower the cost to £35.

6. Providing a cadet is up to date with their monthly subs the VCC will pay the £35 application fee for those cadets who wish to take part in the NCS scheme.

Way ahead

7. A member of the Pompey in the Community team will visit the Unit on **Fri 10 Feb 17** to give a short presentation to all current Year 11 cadets and any Year 12 cadets who are under 18 on 24 Jul 17. Application forms will be handed out on completion of the presentation or will be available from the Admin Office after this date for those unable to attend the presentation. Completed application forms will need to be returned to the Admin Office by **Tue 28 Feb 17**.

Further Information

8. More information can be found at the following links:

- National Citizen Service: www.ncsyes.co.uk
- Pompey in the Community: www.pompeyitc.co.uk

Conclusion

9. NCS is an excellent opportunity for those cadets who will have recently completed secondary school to expand their life skills, gain experience and develop their independence and confidence in a friendly, controlled and supervised environment and is an invaluable addition to any young adult's CV.

{ Signed on Original }

T E WING
Lt Col RMC
Commander VCC

Distribution:

All Eligible Cadets