

Dear Parent/Carer,

20/4/2021

The Hazeley Academy is seeking to extend the extra-curricular provision provided to students to enable our young people to develop their character, confidence and creativity. As part of this ongoing expansion, we are looking to set up an Army Cadet unit at Hazeley with the full support of MOD materials and resources and so are looking for any parents who would be interested in joining the leadership to help run the Army Cadets at Hazeley.

What is Army Cadet Force?

The Army Cadet Force has engaged young people since its creation in 1859. Back then it was hoped that youngsters would be able to support the home-based army in defending the country from the threat of invasion from France.

Why are we opening a detachment at Hazeley?

In the modern era of the ACF, the impact upon young people's lives was highlighted in a social study by the University of Northampton, who's study suggests that a free school meals student, who joins the ACF and serves a 3 year career through it will achieve all of their target grades at school. The social impact upon students whose home lives can be challenging or unsupported was measured and the MOD who sponsor the ACF were amazed.

What does training involve?

Cadets undertake the Army Proficiency Certificate syllabus covering training and experience in 10 subjects; Military Knowledge, Drill and Turnout, First Aid, Navigation, Physical Training, Cadet in the Community, Fieldcraft (Living tactically outdoors), Skills at Arms (training with weapons), Shooting (Air Rifle, L98A2 GP Rifle, Target Rifle and Shotgun) and Expedition Training.

Cadets learn leadership skills that set them apart from their peers, they can prioritise and support their peers as well as look after others. They gain qualifications including L1, L2 and L3 BTECs in team working skills, leadership and management which are not open to non-cadets. They save lives using the First Aid qualifications they undertake. They gain the Duke of Edinburgh award through completing their APC syllabus.

The Hazeley Academy have enquired about opening a unit based at the school, but to open a unit we must have volunteers who are willing to train and participate as staff. To qualify as a Cadet Force Adult Volunteer (CFAV), you must fulfil the national training designed to allow you to develop as instructors. This is a package of courses which are undertaken during weekends and during several set periods across the calendar year.

Training sessions

It starts with an introduction evening, these are virtual presently. Then there are 3 training and assessment weekends, the first is the familiarisation and assessment weekend to ensure you have the correct attitude to training young people. The second and third are Basic and intermediate instructional course weekends and are run after you receive a period of training at your company locations. The final assessment weekend to qualify as a Sergeant Instructor is a week assessment with the regular army, where your skills and knowledge are assessed at a regional level.

For your time, there is a volunteer remuneration, a small reward for providing your time to train to benefit your communities. There is also a host of additional qualifications that are available to CFAV's from L3 BTEC qualifications to degree level qualifications.

Benefits to students and leaders

The rewards of being a CFAV stand in their own right with the benefit of seeing your influence on developing the leadership of young people. The excitement of training in skills which are not available to others such as becoming a skill at arms instructor and teaching young people to shoot and hit a target 500m away is priceless.



As a qualified CFAV, you are then able to train cadets.

There is no previous service requirements needed to become a CFAV, just a willingness and desire to help young people improve their lives, experience and outcomes. Previous service experience is a bonus. We look to take anyone who has something to offer.

How do I get involved?

Should you have any questions I would be happy to answer them at lmckenzie@thehazeleyacademy.com

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