



8 September 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

This year your son/daughter/ward will have the opportunity to join the Judd School Combined Cadet Force (CCF), one of the largest and most popular after school activities. The CCF is entirely voluntary and accommodates approximately 200 cadets from Y9 to Y13.

The purpose of the CCF is to provide a disciplined organisation within a school environment so that young people (cadets) may develop qualities of self-discipline, endurance, resourcefulness, perseverance, self-reliance, responsibility and leadership. In addition, the CCF allows cadets to gain an insight into the role of the services and gives encouragement and support to those who may be contemplating a military career. It is not, however, a recruiting vehicle for the armed forces.

We are one of about 300 CCF contingents nationwide that are partly funded by the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and they sponsor and approve the training activities we undertake. Here at Judd, the Contingent comprises an Army and an RAF section. Both are staffed by volunteers drawn from the School and elsewhere in the local area. The training syllabi for both sections is set by the MOD and our cadets are expected to achieve proficiency milestones as they progress through their respective sections.

Training takes place on Friday evenings from 15:45 to 17:30 and regular attendance is expected. In addition there are extended and weekend training sessions organized each term and whilst attendance is not mandatory, cadets are strongly encouraged to participate.

Army Section

In their first year cadets are introduced to a range of military activities including drill, uniform inspection, weapon handling, live weapon firing, map work, and field craft. They then have the opportunity to put their new skills into practice during a series of field days and night exercises held each term and at annual camp at the end of the summer term.

RAF Section

Cadets initially concentrate on learning about the principles of flight, aircraft recognition, drill, uniform inspection and preparation for their Part 1 examination. Successful completion of this is a mandatory requirement set by the MOD as a precursor to being able to participate in flying in one of the RAF's instructional aircraft, the Grob Tutor. Our flying is based at RAF Wittering, Cambridgeshire. In addition to powered flight we also have the opportunity for gliding at RAF Kenley, near Croydon. Like the Army section there are a series of field days and night exercises held each term and an annual camp at the end of the summer term which is held at an operational RAF station.

In addition to section training, our cadets are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of other exciting activities and training courses ranging from adventurous training, leadership, first aid to military engineering. Much of this training supports other youth initiatives such as the DofE award scheme.

Progression through the Contingent is by attaining their proficiency milestones and promotion on merit.

The MOD provides some of the uniform for both sections and it is the same as that issued to regular service personnel. An initial issue of uniform is provided by the contingent and is replaced as it is outgrown. We provide a pair of combat boots and a waterproof notebook as part of the issue, but a charge may be levied for lost or damaged items, see below.

Subscriptions

The cadet organisation has been severely affected by cuts to the defence budget so modest fees for being part of the contingent are as follows:

Joining Fee of £100 is payable in the Autumn Term. The joining fee includes a uniform deposit of £50 which will be refunded when a cadet leaves the contingent and returns all of their uniform to a member of the contingent staff and it is signed back into the inventory.

Annual subscription of £60. This is payable in at the start of the academic year and allows the contingent to be able to provide extra equipment and staffing for the cadets.

Additional Activities such as field days and weekend training will incur a nominal contribution from parents. Annual Camp will cost approximately £100 and MOD sponsored training courses cost between £100-£300 depending on the nature of the activity.

The first parade for new recruits will be on Friday 15th September and potential recruits should come to CCF parade which is held outside the RS Building so that they can experience what each section has to offer. They may wish to observe one section one week and the other section the following week. Further information and joining forms for those who wish to do so will be sent out after the initial taster sessions. This information will also be available on FROG

Please note that I regret that I am no longer able to accept cadets into either section who suffer from severe nut allergies. This is an MOD policy over which the school has no influence.

Yours sincerely

C Lawrence

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Contingent Commander
Judd School CCF

