



Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am delighted to inform you that this term your child will have the opportunity to sign up to NCS, a government-funded programme for 16-17 year olds.

NCS is an 11 day part-residential programme, which takes place over the October half term and the following three weekends. This once-in-a-lifetime experience will empower your child and enable them to build skills and confidence to get ahead in work and life, whilst engaging with their local area. The Challenge is the country's largest provider of NCS, and this autumn we are offering more than 400 places in your area.

NCS is comprised of three parts, the first of which is called **Get Active**. Your child will spend 4 days away on a residential trip with a team of 11 other young people, getting the chance to develop their leadership and teamwork skills whilst working with the best outdoor instructors in the UK. Once Part 1 is complete, your child will embark on Part 2 of the programme; **Get Involved**. Your child will stay at home, but come in everyday to gain new skills in Drama, Media, Sport, Enterprise, Art or Photography with a professional practitioner. Finally, over the weekend of the 5th and 6th November, and on Saturday 12th and Saturday 19th November, your child will complete Part 3 of the programme: **Make Your Mark**. Together with their team, your child will have the opportunity to design, pitch and deliver a social action project that will positively impact your own community. Once completed, all participants graduate and receive a signed certificate from the Prime Minister!

Each place on NCS is worth over £1,000, but as NCS is a government-backed programme, The Challenge only ask for a maximum of £50 from you for your child to participate. Furthermore, for students at Sir William Ramsay, we are offering a discounted rate of £20 if your child applies online or brings in their paper application form to school before 16/09/16. This price is all inclusive, and all travel, food and accommodation are covered. Further financial support is also available on a case by case basis and more information about this can be provided.

Representatives from The Challenge will be holding an assembly at Sir William Ramsay for all Year 12 students on 09/09/16, in which your child will have the opportunity to learn more about NCS, and express their interest in the programme.

To learn more about NCS or to book a place for your child visit www.ncsthechallenge.org, or contact me, your local NCS Engagement Coordinator at katharine.nutman@the-challenge.org or on 07469151468.

Yours sincerely,

Katharine

Katharine Nutman

NCS Engagement Coordinator

The Challenge

Reading Office

katharine.nutman@the-challenge.org

07469151468

