



**Dear Parent/Guardian/Carer,**

The NCS (National Citizen Service) Oxfordshire team will soon be coming into the school to present an assembly to Year 11 offering them the opportunity to take part in the NCS Summer 2019 Programme. NCS is the government's largest youth & community programme enabling young people aged 15 - 17 to gain skills in leadership, communication, teamwork & independence. Completion of the NCS programme is highly valued by universities, colleges & employers. Since NCS started back in 2011, over 300,000 young people have completed the programme and this upcoming summer is the opportunity for your young person to take part. Please see below the programme dates and details: (Please note, each programme is made up of 3 phases)

**Programme 1: Monday 1 July – Friday 26 July**

**Programme 2: Monday 15 July – Friday 9 August**

**Programme 3: Monday 22 July – Friday 16 August**

**Programme 4: Monday 29 July – Friday 23 August**

**Programme 5: Monday 5 August – Friday 23 August (3-week programme, condensed Social Action)**

### **Phase 1: Adventure Residential**

Your young person will be picked up in Oxford by coach and taken for an amazing five-day residential course at an outdoor activity centre, taking part in activities such as; abseiling, caving, canoeing, rock climbing & surfing. All transport, accommodation, food & equipment for activities is provided. This phase is designed to encourage participants to get out of their comfort zone, make new friends and to take on challenges.

### **Phase 2: NCS Skills Festival**

Your young person will spend five days at our NCS Skills Festival at the stunning Hill End Centre (Eynsham Road, Oxford, OX2 9NJ). Participants will be engaging in workshops that have been designed to make them stand out to potential employers and universities whilst preparing them for Phase 3 of their NCS journey. Past workshops have included: UX2 Communications training, inspirational speakers from the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust, employability & interview skills from M&S, St John Ambulance first aid training and even food hygiene and cooking skills from Nando's. In the evenings there is organised entertainment in the form of talent shows, camp fires and watching films on our outdoor cinema screen.

### **Phase 3: Social Action**

Participants in their teams will identify a local community cause or charity they are passionate about. They will then create either a fundraising, campaigning or volunteering project to help their local community. This is a chance to show their initiative, teamwork and leadership skills and come up with an original and ambitious project. Last year NCS Oxfordshire participants raised over £30, 000 for local charities & organisations.

**Celebration Event @ Oxford Brookes University, Saturday 7 September**

Upon completion of all 3 phases, participants receive a nationally recognised certificate signed by the Prime Minister. They will have the chance to celebrate all achievements with friends & family at a prestigious event held at Oxford Brookes University.

**The next steps to sign up your young person to NCS.**

NCS is valued at £1,500 per person, but thanks to government funding we can offer a place on the programme for £50 per person. During the assembly we will hand out 'Exploding Offer' packs to students which will allow them to receive our early bird offer of just **£35 to sign up!** This offer will be for a limited time only; we will return to the school a few days after the assembly to collect the 'Exploding Offer' pack with £35 cash.

As there is limited availability on our programmes we would advise early sign up to avoid disappointment. Please note: there are additional bursaries available, if further financial assistance is required.

We look forward to welcoming your young person onto the NCS Oxfordshire programme. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

**NCS Oxfordshire Team**  
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