



MTS/JJA

10 February 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

RE: THE COMBINED CADET FORCE (CCF) AT THE GATEWAY ACADEMY

I am writing to advise you that your son /daughter has expressed a wish to join the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) based at The Gateway Academy. The intention of this letter is to give you some basic information about the CCF and how it aims to deliver the 'Cadet Experience'.

There are CCF contingents in over 500 secondary schools all over the UK, offering young people a broad range of challenging, exciting, adventurous and educational activities. Our aim is to enable the development of personal responsibility, leadership and self-discipline through an extra-curricular military training programme. Each CCF is an educational partnership between the school and the Ministry of Defence. Cadets are not joining the military in any capacity and are not liable to any form of mobilisation. Cadets are volunteers and can leave the CCF at any time that they wish too.

All CCF Cadets are issued a military uniform, this uniform remains the property of the Ministry of Defence and must be returned at the end of the Cadet's service. There is an annual non-refundable £10.00 cost on joining which covers insurance fees as well as the cost of equipment and resources.

The CCF is a non-profit organisation and strives to be inclusive for everyone. CCF trips during the training year incur individual costs, however, these are heavily subsidised where possible, with a maximum daily charge of £15.00. For example, a 3-day trip would cost £45.00. This fee covers all accommodation, meals, equipment and activities. Further details on payments will be provided in future correspondence if your child is successful in the application process (please see the attached form).

If you have any questions or queries with regards to the CCF, then please do not hesitate to contact me on telephone number 01375 489000 or via email at mark.thomas@theglc.org.uk or my colleague, Michael O'Donoghue at michael.odonoghue@theglc.org.uk. Alternatively, please visit: <https://combinedcadetforce.org.uk/>.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Thomas

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL / CONTINGENT COMMANDER