

Dear Parent/Carer,

Your son/daughter has expressed a wish to be put forward for selection for the Brooke Weston Trust Combined Cadet Force (Army). Application does not guarantee an offer of a place as the selection process is rigorous. However, before your son/daughter begins the selection process for the CCF(A) the first mandatory selection criterion is Parental/Carer Consent. As such we require you to complete the consent form at the end of this letter (Annexe: App. Consent Form) and return to the CCF(A) Representative Officer at the Academy which your son/daughter attends:

Mr B Hebberd (Brooke Weston Academy)
Mr S Lohdi (Corby Business Academy)
Mr A Howell / Ms J Everett (Kettering Science Academy)
Ms A Rose / Mr D Dollis (Thomas Clarkson Academy)

Consent forms to be returned by Friday 07-February 2014.

Any student joining the CCF (A) is making a commitment to attend every Wednesday CCF(A) session (known as parades) and to give of their best, whatever the weather. The CCF is a youth organisation with a military ethos so that cadets may develop powers of leadership by means of training to promote the qualities of responsibility, self-reliance, resourcefulness, endurance and perseverance. There is no point in students joining the CCF(A) if they do not enjoy partaking in mentally and physically challenging activities both inside and outdoors.

As you will appreciate the level of commitment required is not to be underestimated. Alongside the weekly Wednesday parades (which for academic year 2014-15 will be delivered at Oundle School) there will be at least 3 'field-weekends' across the year and a week camp at the end of the year at a military training area in the UK.

Students enrolled as Cadets on the CCF(A) programme will be withdrawn from regular lessons on Wednesday afternoons with their curriculum time being replaced by CCF(A) parade, as such one of the fundamental criteria for selection is that the student must have a secure academic profile. Each application will be considered by the respective students Principal. The Principal (or delegated Vice-Principal) will review the application against the current academic performance of the applicant. Principal approval of an application is therefore the second mandatory selection criteria. Approval on academic grounds is at the sole discretion of the Principal.

Following successful completion of the selection process; a maximum of thirty Y9 students from across the Brooke Weston Trust of Academies will be invited to join the CCF (A) which will start at the beginning of their Year 10, September 2014. Students accepting the invitation to join do so acknowledging that they are required to commit to completing the two year programme. On completion of the two year programme, should Cadets wish to continue their involvement into 6th Form they may do so, subject to further assessment criteria.

For the first year of the CCF (A) programme, parades will take place on Wednesday afternoons where the BWT contingent will form the 5th Platoon integrated within the CCF(A) Contingent at Oundle School. During their first year Cadets will follow a structured carousel of activities including drill, turnout and military knowledge, an introduction to weapon handling, first aid and basic Fieldcraft. Underpinning the delivery of these subject areas are the continued exposure to and training in 'soft-skills' such as responsibility, leadership and teamwork.

On joining the CCF (A), uniform will be issued on loan and must be returned when the Cadet leaves the CCF (A) or their Academy. The only items of specialist personal kit that Cadets are required to provide are their boots. We expect to be able to source uniform boots on behalf of Cadets at an anticipated cost of £40. As part of the Cadet programme includes 'turnout' Cadets will be required to launder and prepare their own uniform.

Should you wish your son/daughter to apply to undertake selection for the Brooke Weston Trust CCF(A) then your support will be a critical element in their success. Following the first round of selection we will invite all parents/carers alongside their child to an information evening where further details about the selection process and the CCF(A) programme will be provided.

We trust we can rely on your support both for your child and the establishment of the Combined Cadet Force across the Academies of the Brooke Weston Trust.

Kind regards

M Isherwood
Contingent Commander (Designate)

-----Tear-off & Return to CCF(A) Representative-----
(Annexe: App. Consent Form):

Please complete: "insert/delete" as applicable

Brooke Weston Trust: Combined Cadet Force (Army).

Name of Academy: _____

Name of Student: _____

I/We [_____] parents/carers of [_____] ,

hereby grant full approval for my/our son/daughter to apply and consent for them to undertake selection for the Combined Cadet Force (Army) with Brooke Weston Trust.

Signed: _____ (Parents / Carers of the student named above)

Date: _____