

12 December 2025

Dear Parent/ Carer

Combined Cadet Force Army Unit

We are delighted to share some fantastic news with you. Our application to establish a cadet unit under the Cadet Expansion Programme (CEP) has been approved, and our school will soon open a **Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Army Unit**. The aim is to open the unit to students in September 2026.

The MOD-sponsored Cadet Forces are widely recognised as one of the most successful youth organisations in the UK. They provide a safe and structured environment where young people can develop through challenging activities, underpinned by the values and standards of the Armed Forces. Cadet units help students build confidence, resilience, leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving skills, while also positively impacting the wider school community.

Adult Volunteers Needed:

To make this programme a success, we are looking for adult volunteers to join us as Cadet Force Adult Volunteers (CFAVs). Our volunteers will play a key role in supporting the work of the school and form an important part of our community.

What does a CFAV do?

CFAVs help guide and support cadets during their training sessions and activities. This could involve assisting with practical sessions, helping to organise events and providing encouragement and mentorship to young people.

Do I need military experience?

No. The Cadet Forces are youth organisations, not part of the military. While they use a military rank and structure and are sponsored by the Armed Forces, neither cadets nor volunteers are subject to military call-up. Previous experience is not required as full training is provided.

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Satchell Lane, Hamble, Southampton, SO31 4NE

Headteacher: Miss L Cambridge, BSc (Hons), MA Ed. NPQH



What is the time commitment?

Typically, one afternoon a week at school, occasional weekends and an annual camp. Beyond that, it is up to the individual how much time they want to give.

Do I need experience working with young people?

Previous experience working with young people is helpful but not required. Training will take place during the Spring Term.

Do I need to be physically fit?

We ask volunteers to be in reasonable health to supervise activities, but there are many roles beyond outdoor tasks. The CCF is inclusive and supports equal opportunities.

Application Process for Volunteers

If you are interested in becoming a CFAV, the process is straightforward:

1. Register your interest by completing this short form: [Combined Cadet Force \(CCF\) Army Unit – Fill in form](#)
2. We will contact you to discuss the role, answer any questions and explain the next steps.
3. All volunteers will undergo safeguarding checks and receive full training before working with cadets.

We invite Parents/ Carers and members of the local community to register their interest. Even if you are unsure about the time commitment, we encourage you to get in touch.

School Staff Instructor (SSI)

In addition to volunteer positions, we will also be advertising a paid role in the New Year: **School Staff Instructor (SSI)**. This is a crucial, usually civilian, appointment that acts as the link between the Contingent Commander (a member of the school's teaching staff) and the Army.

Further details about this role, including how to apply, will be shared in January.

Thank you for your continued support as we launch this exciting new initiative for our students.

Yours faithfully



Mr N Loveridge

Senior Bursar

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.