



Our ref:NCS/srs

28 February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are excited to be working with Oldbury Wells School again this year to deliver an unforgettable summer experience for students in Year 11 .

We are Catch22 and we deliver the NCS (National Citizen Service) programme. NCS was launched in 2011 and since its inception is now one of the biggest youth movements in Europe.

NCS: what's it all about?

The NCS programme offers young people, aged 16-17, a once in a lifetime opportunity to do something meaningful with their summer break. In just two weeks, they'll mix with new people from different backgrounds, conquer big challenges, pick up some invaluable skills and get the confidence they need to live independently. They will even take part in a social action project THEY care about in their local community. It's the perfect stepping-stone into adult life – just ask the 600,000 young people who've taken part.

We've seen first-hand what an amazing feeling of accomplishment and increased confidence this brings. Last August, teenagers on NCS donated 200,000 hours of their time to help rebuild their communities after the first lockdown, showing what a difference young people can make when they work together towards a goal.

NCS is broken down into 4 different phases:

Phase 1: Be Epic In this phase, students will nurture their adventurous side. Stepping outside of their comfort zone, they might find themselves swinging from the high ropes, building winning rafts, or scaling a wall. But one thing we can guarantee is by Friday night they'll feel fearless (and pretty worn out)!

Phase 2: Live Life Students will enjoy some more time with us and their new-found friends. They'll get a crash course in adulting and pick up skills they need to set them up for life. Taking part in inspirational workshops covering topics such as public speaking, enterprise, mental health and employability. They will be different people when they return home Friday!

Phase 3: Do Good gives students the chance to deliver an impressive 'Social Action Project' which they will lead and deliver in your local area. This is their chance to make a positive change about an issue they are passionate about!

Phase 4: Go Party before we send them off into the world of adulthood, we recognise and celebrate just how far they've come and present each young person with a certificate signed by the UK Prime Minister. This certificate is internationally recognised and will give their CV's and future applications a boost!

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Schools' Partnership

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NCS is all about helping teenagers realise their potential by giving them a taste of independence and loading them up with new skills that set them up to achieve their future goals, whatever they may be. And this year, it's your teen's turn!

Health & Safety

Don't worry, we're complying with current government guidelines and going above and beyond to ensure the health & safety is at the forefront of everything we do to protect all young people and staff.

The Cost

A place on NCS is worth around £1500. However, thanks to government funding for the programme, we only ask for a contribution of £50 to cover some basic costs. We want to ensure that everyone can do NCS so there are bursaries available if you need some help to cover the cost. If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals or is Pupil Premium the Cost will be just £10.

Dates & Availability

NCS is spread out during the summer. Starting on the first week of July, we offer a wide variety of dates to help work around you. Summer holidays and trips are more important than ever, so we're happy to accommodate your summer commitments into making NCS work for you, just let us know!

Duration: 2 weeks	
Phase 1 & 2 combined	Residential
Phase 3	Non-Residential
Phase 4: Go Party (evening event)	

Programme Start Dates:

Wolverhampton	Telford
27 th June	4 th July
11 th July	18 th July
25 th July	1 st August
8 th August	

If you sit down with your young person and discuss which dates are best for you and your household, then you can select a programme with either one of the NCS staff or by choosing the programme on the NCS website.

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How to sign up

NCS sells out every year and with Covid-19 guidelines and social distancing measures, places are extremely limited. The best and quickest option is for you and your child is to go online at www.wearencs.com and fill in the online form. Or call 0800 197 8010 open 7 days a week to secure your place there and then.

I hosted a talk about the NCS programme in school on 27th January. However I am more than happy to answer any questions you/your teen may have.

If you do want anymore information about NCS, feel free to browse our website, there is plenty of experiences and stories for you to find: **wearencs.com**

Or Follow us on Instagram **@catch22westmidlands**

If you have any questions email me @ **zoe.broome@catch-22.org.uk**

Best Wishes,

Zoe Broome
Catch22, NCS Team

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