

CELT Combined Cadet Force

To Inspire to Achieve



Brannel School CCF Prospectus 2025-26



Cornwall
Education
Learning Trust

“The CCF is huge, it is part of what enables us, it is bigger than us; it gives great cultural capital to young people.”

Head Teacher, South Wales Comprehensive School



Welcome

Tristan Muller-Forster, Headteacher,
Brannel School



Welcome to Brannel School's Combined Cadet Force!

It is with great privilege and excitement that I welcome you, not only as your new Headteacher this September, but also as someone deeply committed to shaping a future where every young person is seen, supported, and stretched.

At Brannel, our school values of engineering excellence, creating community and capturing creativity are woven through everything we do. They guide every lesson, every opportunity, and every expectation. We believe in high standards, strong support, and bold ambitions.

This is why I'm so proud to introduce our Combined Cadet Force: an impactful addition to school life and a living embodiment of our school ethos. The cadet motto "*To Inspire to Achieve*" encourages cadets to aim high and unlock their unique potential.

The CCF isn't about military recruitment. It's about leadership through service, resilience through challenge, and character through discipline. It's about real responsibility, personal growth, and friendships rooted in loyalty and a shared commitment to something bigger than ourselves.

This is how we bring our values to life—by expanding horizons, breaking down barriers, and giving every student access to opportunities once reserved for the privileged few. Every young person deserves the opportunity to be the best they can be.

As part of the Department for Education's Cadet Expansion Programme, Brannel is proud to be leading the way nationally in building an inclusive, values-led model for the cadet experience in UK state schools. I can't wait to see where this journey takes us, together.

Tristan



“CCFs in schools capture lots of children that would not be in Cadet Forces in the community.”

Chairman of Northamptonshire Reserve Forces and Cadets Association

Introduction

Captain Ryan Pentecost,
CCF Contingent Commander



I have the honour to lead our Combined Cadet Force as Contingent Commander. As an Army Cadet Instructor since 2013, I've seen first-hand the powerful, lasting impact the CCF programme has on the character and lives of young people.

Growing up in Falmouth in a working-class family, I didn't have access to the kind of opportunities and experiences we offer young people through the CCF. What I did have were role models who demonstrated values like hard work, loyalty, and service. I became a Rifleman with 6 Rifles in the South West, and these values shaped my path, from soldier to instructor to educator.

I believe strongly in the Stoic idea, expressed by Epictetus, that *"It's not what happens to you, but how you react to it that matters."* Epictetus was born into slavery in Rome and went on to become a teacher of philosophy. Resilience, discipline, and self-leadership are the foundations of personal growth. This mindset is at the heart of what we aim to teach in the CCF.

CCF cadets learn far more than drill or how to navigate. They learn to lead themselves and others, to remain calm under pressure, and to make good decisions with confidence and integrity. Whether on the parade square, the shooting range, or during field exercises, our young people are building the skills and character to thrive in life, not just in school.

Over the years, I've gained a suite of useful qualifications through the cadet force, but my true reward has been watching young people transform as they gain confidence, learn to lead, and discover their own strengths.

We are not here to create soldiers; we are here to create resilient, principled individuals who contribute meaningfully to society. *"Serve to Lead"* is the official motto of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS). Through this model, we teach young people the true meaning of leadership, and respect for those who have served and sacrificed to protect the freedoms we enjoy today.

Ryan



CELT Combined Cadet Force

Our ambition: to bring CCF opportunities to every school community

The Combined Cadet Force (CCF) is a transformative youth programme open to all students, designed to build confidence, resilience, leadership, and character through purposeful, military-themed activity.

The CCF motto is *"To Inspire to Achieve."* If every young person, no matter their background, has access to the CCF's unique opportunities to build confidence, leadership, and resilience, then we will create a generation of capable, ethical leaders ready to succeed in life and strengthen their communities.

This is why we are working with the Department for Education's Cadet Expansion Programme team to pioneer an innovative, inclusive trust-based model focused on enabling schools to collaborate and share resources, staff and infrastructure. CELT is proud to be leading this work, creating a blueprint that supports the MoD and DfE's ambition to bring CCF opportunities to every school community.

Cadets are offered the opportunity to join the Army, Royal Navy, Royal Marines, or Royal Air Force sections. Each offers unique experiences—from fieldcraft and orienteering to sailing, aviation and marksmanship training—but all sections share the same core mission: to help young people develop the skills and values they need to succeed in life.

Through weekly parade evenings, field days, training camps, and national competitions, cadets grow their confidence and team spirit while earning real qualifications such as First Aid, the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards and recognised leadership credentials. Training is delivered by a team of experienced volunteers, including veterans, school staff, and specialist instructors.

There is no military obligation. The CCF is not about recruiting young people to the armed forces. It is about readiness for life: cadets leave with the skills and experience to take their own individual next best steps in education, employment, or service—to forge whatever life path they choose.





CCF Army Section

The Army sponsors approximately 31,500 cadets and 2,100 adult volunteers in 405 sections in CCF contingents across UK schools



Leadership and Training for Life

The Army Section of the CCF is known for its focus on leadership and personal development through challenge and service. Cadets undergo a wide range of command and tactical training that builds both physical and mental resilience and is designed to teach leadership in unpredictable scenarios.

Marksmanship and Adventurous Training

Cadets take part in hands-on, outdoor activities like patrolling, camouflage and concealment, building shelters, and learning how to navigate and operate effectively in the field. A major highlight is marksmanship training, where cadets progress from basic air rifle and small-bore shooting to advanced live fire training on full-bore ranges under expert supervision. Many cadets compete in local and national shooting competitions.

During the Summer holidays it's not unusual to find our cadets mountaineering in the wilds of the Scottish Highlands or the French Alps, and even as far afield as the Drakensberg mountains in South Africa. Canoeing on some of the UK's finest waterways, around the thousands of islands surrounding the southern coast of Norway and Sweden, or journeying down the great rivers of Canada following in the footsteps of the early pioneers are also unique opportunities facilitated by the cadet Adventurous Training syllabus.

Courses and Qualifications

Many cadets work towards nationally recognised qualifications such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, BTEC Awards in teamwork and leadership, and STEM-based awards. Opportunities to attend leadership camps, contingent-level training, and national cadet leadership courses help high-performing cadets develop into confident leaders with recognised Level 3 leadership qualifications, giving them a strong foundation for future success.

CCF Royal Air Force Section

The Royal Air Force sponsors approximately 9000 cadets and 700 adult volunteers in 230 sections in CCF contingents across UK schools



Flight, STEM & Exploration

The RAF Section of the CCF gives cadets the chance to take to the skies – literally. Every cadet has the opportunity for at least one flight with a qualified RAF pilot each year, and some go on to earn flying scholarships or even a Private Pilot's Licence. Cadets explore aviation and aerospace through STEM, cyber, and virtual reality training, and can apply for elite programmes such as the Air Cadet Leadership Course and International Air Cadet Exchange.

Marksmanship and Drill

RAF cadets are trained in safe, skilled weapons handling. With practice, cadets progress through a structured marksmanship programme, participating in controlled shooting at various ranges and potentially entering national competitions. Alongside this, they take part in drill, command tasks, and fieldcraft, all helping build discipline, confidence and team cohesion.

Courses and Qualifications

From aviation studies and flight simulation to the Qualified Aerospace Instructor Course, RAF cadets develop real-world skills in aerodynamics, navigation, air traffic control, and more. Cadets also participate in adventurous training, including gliding, hillwalking, and survival exercises, and work toward qualifications like first aid certificates, STEM awards, and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Leadership and Personal Growth

Leadership is at the core of RAF cadet training. From being a reliable team member to leading groups during camps and courses, cadets develop confidence, communication, and initiative. High-performing cadets can progress to Junior Leaders, earning Level 3 leadership qualifications and gaining experience that sets them apart in civilian or military careers alike.



CCF Royal Navy Section

The Royal Navy sponsors approximately 5,300 cadets and 640 adult volunteers in 150 sections in CCF contingents across UK schools

Afloat and Adventurous Training

Afloat training is at the heart of the Royal Navy CCF experience. Cadets can take part in a broad range of water-based activities including dinghy sailing, powerboating, yacht sailing. They also take part in national sailing events such as the Round the Isle of Wight Race, leading to RYA-certified qualifications.

Courses and Camps

Royal Navy cadets attend annual camps at key naval sites like Britannia Royal Naval College (Dartmouth), Portsmouth, Plymouth, and Scotland. Over 100 courses run year-round, including scuba diving, rock climbing, mountain biking, first aid, and even band and music training – many leading to recognised qualifications and supporting Duke of Edinburgh's Awards.

Leadership and Skills Development

The focus is on building leadership and teamwork through adventurous and practical maritime training. Cadets are supported by experienced Royal Navy and Royal Marine instructors and take part in field days, bridge simulation, damage control training, and obstacle courses.

Royal Marines Option

For even more challenge, the Royal Marines section offers advanced skills like fieldcraft, marksmanship, and the legendary Pringle Trophy competition – all within a maritime setting.



Leadership Development

“Serve to Lead” is the official motto of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS), the British Army’s officer training centre. It captures the ethos that leadership is about service, duty, integrity and putting others before yourself.

“Serve to Lead” captures the ethos that leadership is about service, duty, integrity and putting others before yourself. These values are central to how we approach leadership development at CELT, and our CCF programme draws inspiration from this principle.

Leadership Development for Cadets

As cadets progress, they are encouraged to take responsibility for themselves and, gradually, for others. In the early stages, this will involve looking after their uniform and kit, and developing self-discipline and organisational skills to successfully complete their basic training.

As they develop their own skills, they may be given the opportunity to take responsibility for a small group of cadets as a Junior Non-Commissioned Officer (JNCO).

As JNCOs develop their leadership skills and grow in confidence, they may be asked to step up to the next level and become a cadet Senior Non-Commissioned Officer (SNCO). These cadets support the adult volunteers to run activities, deliver lessons, and plan future training for junior cadets.

Leadership Development for Adult Volunteers

Our adult volunteers are at the heart of our CCF. They may be school staff, or parents, former cadets, veterans or other members of our community. A Cadet Forces Commission (CFC) provides the legal authority and responsibility to plan and deliver training, uphold standards, and model leadership.

- Join the CCF as an Adult Volunteer (AV).
- Complete induction courses and initial training, including basic instruction and leadership modules.
- Recommendation by the Contingent Commander for a Cadet Forces Commission.
- Attend the Officers' Initial Course and successfully complete a course at a Cadet Training Centres such as Frimley Park.
- Receive a Cadet Forces Commission (CFC) from the relevant service (Army, Navy, RAF), formally authorising you to serve as an officer within the CCF.

The commission is specific to cadet forces. It is not the same as a regular or reserve forces commission, but it is recognised by the MoD as authority to act as an officer within cadet organisations.





“Leadership is huge in the CCF, pupils at risk of exclusion are developed into young leaders”

Head Teacher, CEP School, Northern Ireland

A Tradition of Excellence

At CELT, our goal is to provide equity of opportunity and level the playing field for every student. By bringing the CCF into our schools, we ensure that all young people – not just a privileged few – have the opportunity to access high-quality experiences that develop confidence and character and unlock future success.

The CCF has a proud history stretching back over 150 years. It began in 1859 when the Secretary of State for War, Jonathan Peel, wrote to public schools and universities, inviting them to form units of the Volunteer Corps. Several schools took up the idea, and the first Cadet Corps in a school was formed in 1860 at Rossall School, in Lancashire. Other units formed soon after at Eton, Harrow, Rugby, Hurstpierpoint and Felsted schools.

For many years, all-male CCF units were established mainly in independent and public schools, and focused on Officer Training. During the First and Second World Wars many of the young men who served in these units went on to serve the country in the Armed Forces

From the late 20th century onwards, the government has supported the expansion of the CCF into state-maintained schools and, today, the state sector has more contingents than the independent sector. This has helped widen access to the unique experiences and opportunities the CCF provides, regardless of background.

Modern contingents are very different to their predecessors. The CCF is not a military recruitment programme. While it is proudly sponsored by the Armed Forces, its core mission is to help young people develop confidence, character and valuable life skills. Cadets are under no obligation or expectation to join the military when they leave.

While still rooted in the values of the Armed Forces – leadership, discipline, and teamwork – the modern CCF is a youth organisation which provides young people with the skills and self-belief to take charge of their lives and reach their full potential. Cadets take part in challenging, adventurous and fun activities that help build confidence, resilience, and lifelong friendships.

To join the CCF is to step into a tradition of excellence while gaining valuable skills for life in a dynamic and supportive environment.

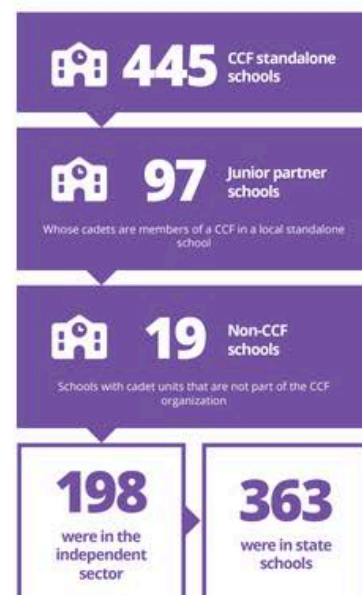
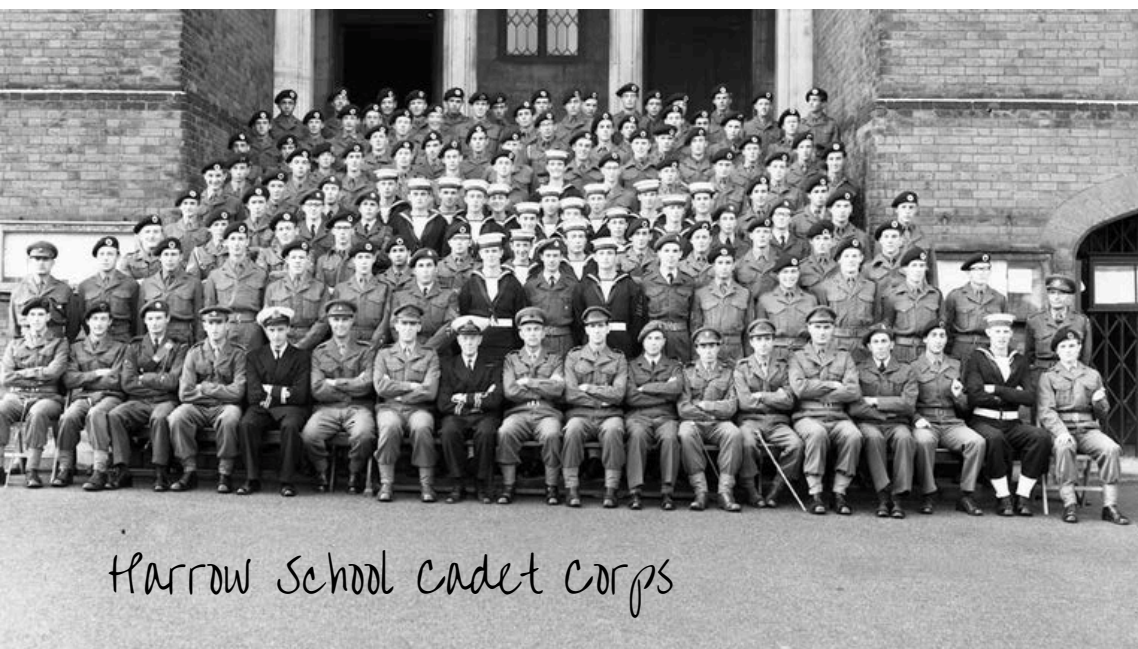


Figure 1.1 Schools with CCF units by school type

Looking ahead: 2025 and Beyond

With new training developments launching from 2025, including STEM and technology-based activities, we are dedicated to providing our CELT cadets with modern, life-changing experiences that prepare them for the future.

Under the 2025 Strategic Defence Review, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and Department for Education (DfE) plan to expand the UK's cadet force by 30% by 2030 and have set a longer-term ambition of 250,000 total cadets. The MoD has committed £3.6 million annually for Cadet Expansion Programme funding to 2033/34, alongside a broader cadet budget of £180 million.

Defence and education departments are exploring deeper integration of cadet activity into schools, with opportunities to link to curriculum and provide vocational qualifications for cadets. A modernised syllabus will be introduced from September 2025, adding STEM modules, Artificial Intelligence, drone usage, simulators and enhanced military ethos training. By embracing these new elements, the CCF will better prepare our students for the demands of the 21st century, equipping them with vital skills for success in school, work, and life.

- *Boosting Digital Literacy:* Students gain hands-on experience with cutting-edge technology, making them confident users of digital tools increasingly essential in education and careers.
- *Developing Problem-Solving Skills:* STEM challenges encourage logical thinking and creativity, helping cadets analyse situations, troubleshoot, and innovate under pressure.
- *Opening Career Choices and Pathways:* Exposure to technology fields inspires interest in STEM careers, from engineering and IT to aviation and defence industries, widening future job opportunities.
- *Enhancing Teamwork and Leadership:* Working on tech projects requires collaboration and communication, strengthening leadership skills in modern, real-world contexts.
- *Increasing Engagement and Motivation:* High-tech, interactive activities make learning engaging and relevant, keeping students motivated.



Impact and Value

Don't just take our word for it. The government continues to invest in school-based cadet forces because the results speak for themselves.

An independent study by the University of Northampton finds that joining a school-based cadet force can be life-changing for young people and offers real benefits to schools and communities.

What It Means for Young People

Confidence and Character: Cadets develop resilience, self-belief and emotional wellbeing.

Better Behaviour and Attendance: Students involved in cadets are more likely to stay engaged in school and less likely to be excluded.

Skills for Life: Teamwork, leadership, communication and decision-making are built into every activity.

Real Qualifications: Cadets work towards awards like the Duke of Edinburgh's, BTECs and leadership qualifications that are recognised by employers and universities.

Social Mobility: Young people from disadvantaged backgrounds particularly benefit, often achieving more both in and beyond school.

What It Means for Schools

Improved Engagement: Teachers report better relationships between staff and students.

Higher Aspirations: Cadets are more likely to believe in their potential and aim higher.

Positive School Culture: The values taught in cadets—integrity, respect, responsibility—strengthen the wider school community.

Value for Money

The programme is not only powerful, it's cost-effective. For every £1 spent, it delivers more than £2 in long-term economic and wellbeing benefits.

The cover of the report features a purple background. At the top left is the University of Northampton logo, and at the top right is the crest of the Combined Cadet Force Association. The title 'The Impact and Value of School-Based Cadet Forces in the UK' is prominently displayed in white. Below the title, it states 'Research Commissioned by the Ministry of Defence and the Combined Cadet Force Association'. A central image shows a white biplane flying over a field, with two cadets in camouflage uniforms in the foreground. At the bottom, the authors' names and affiliations are listed.

University of Northampton
Institute for Social Innovation and Impact

The Impact and Value of School-Based Cadet Forces in the UK

Research Commissioned by the Ministry of Defence and the Combined Cadet Force Association

Simon Denny, Richard Hazenberg and Claire Paterson-Young
The Institute for Social Innovation and Impact
The University of Northampton



Help to increase school attendance



Boost cadets' confidence, skills and aspirations



Bolster resilience and wellbeing



Provide good value for money for schools

“The CCF is a very strong offer, it is a myth that it is kids with guns. It is a high-quality enrichment programme that is well thought-out, planned, and supported by large numbers of volunteers as well as the Ministry of Defence.”

Team Leader – Pupil Enrichment, Mental Health and Wellbeing, DfE



Cross-Service Activities

The CCF offers a range of activities for cadets to enjoy. Each of the Services has its own specific activities, but there are some which are common across all of the Services.



Adventurous Training

Adventurous Training is an important part of the training syllabus for all CCF sections. As well as getting out and exploring new places, adventurous training (or AT, as it is often known) is a great way to develop personal skills such as leadership, teamwork, and self-confidence. From mountain biking to parachuting, kayaking to climbing, there are a huge range of activities your CCF can help you access. All of the activities will be supervised by qualified trainers, to ensure you get the most out of the activity, and with so many activities on offer - there is bound to be something for everyone.

Marksmanship

Cadets across the Services will have the opportunity to learn about a range of different weapons, and how to handle and fire them safely. All courses are taught by qualified instructors, and live firing on ranges is done under the supervision of suitably qualified range conducting officers. Although it may seem straightforward, there is a lot of skill and technique required to fire a rifle with a high level of accuracy. As cadets improve their skills, they will have the chance to progress to more advanced training, and enter competitions to compete against the other cadet forces.



Drill

It might not sound as exciting as sailing a yacht or shooting a rifle, but there are some aspects of drill which might surprise you! The feeling of working as a team can be very satisfying, and you never know quite where you might be asked to parade. Each year cadets from the CCF join forces with other cadet groups from around the UK to parade at the Cenotaph and at the Royal Albert Hall, as part of the Festival of Remembrance. Others have paraded at St Paul's Cathedral, Horse Guards Parade, and the Lord Mayor's Show in London.

Expeditions

Expeditions aren't just about the excitement of travelling. Cadets learn important lessons about how to manage their expedition kit, plan routes and campsites, and learn basic camp craft. Each year HQ Army Regional Command in conjunction with the Royal Canadian Army Cadet (RCAC) organisation manages an international cadet exchange, open to CCF(Army) cadets, which gives cadets a chance to meet other young people from around the world.



Fieldcraft

Fieldcraft is an all-encompassing term for lots of different skills and activities. Training will typically start with the basics of personal camouflage and concealment, stealthy movement in the field, and learning to work as part of a team to accomplish tasks. Cadets will also learn about cooking and setting up camp in the field.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

This is a fun, challenging and rewarding programme, resulting in an internationally-recognised qualification which is highly valued by employers, colleges and universities. At present, there are almost 300,000 young people undertaking their DofE in the UK, some of whom do it through the Combined Cadet Force. Many of the activities cadets already take part in on CCF parade evenings can be counted towards the Award. There are three levels to the Award:

Many of the activities which cadets undertake within the CCF can count towards DofE, as can other hobbies and interests they may have outside of cadets. For example, fundraising for service charities or mentoring younger cadets could be a Volunteering section activity, learning fieldcraft or first aid could be a Skill section activity, and doing fitness activities or playing team sports could count towards the DofE Physical section.



First Aid

The CCF has close links with organisations such as the British Heart Foundation, St John Ambulance, and awarding bodies, who offer regulated first aid qualifications. The CCF also facilitates training for adults, allowing them to gain the appropriate teaching qualifications to deliver first aid training which results in recognised first aid qualifications for cadets. Each year there are a series of national competitions for the best CCF cadets to compete against teams from other Cadet Forces in the national championships which take place each year in October.

Many cadets have used their first aid skills to save lives in real situations. Those cadets or adult volunteers who render first aid in the community can be nominated for lifesaving awards.

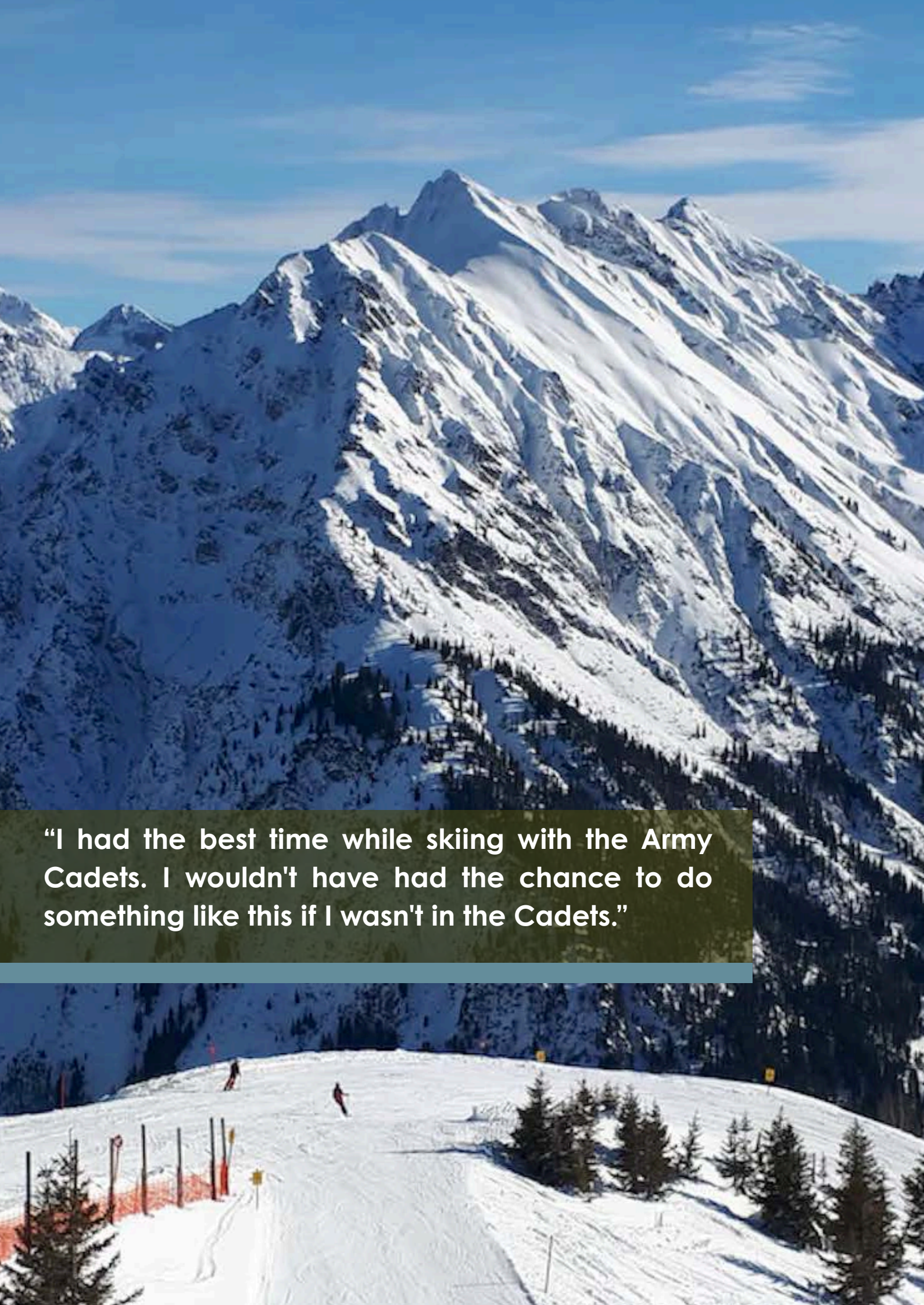
Vocational Qualification

The CCF aims to help young people and adult volunteers to receive recognition for the skills they learn in the form of qualifications that can be used to help gain places at college, university or even secure employment or apprenticeships. CVQO-led qualifications, such as BTEC Certificates and Diplomas as well as leadership and management qualifications from the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) are accessible to everyone and are generally offered free of charge to eligible cadets.



Music

Each year around 100 CCF cadets from across all of the Services, and from all over the country, can attend the Royal Navy-led tri-Service camp held in Dartmouth. The camp, which is intense but highly enjoyable, sees the group perform in front of the Second Sea Lord at the parade at the end of the week. There are also many opportunities within the individual Services, including the RAF's Concert Band, who have performed all around the world, and even recorded their own CD, and their marching band, who perform at prestigious events around the country.



“I had the best time while skiing with the Army Cadets. I wouldn't have had the chance to do something like this if I wasn't in the Cadets.”



Brannel School: CCF Army Section

Brannel is leading the way as the flagship CELT CCF school. Opening as our first section in September 2024, in its first year of operation our Army Section trained over 50 cadets. We meet after school every Wednesday from 3.15-5.15pm and new recruits are always welcome!



CCF Army Section: Syllabus at a Glance

Military Skills & Fieldcraft

- Camouflage and concealment
- Patrolling and section attacks
- Field living skills

Navigation & Map Reading

- Day and night navigation
- Compass and GPS use
- Route planning exercises
- Option to take part in Ten Tors competition

Skill at Arms

- Safe weapons handling (L98 A2 Cadet GP Rifle)
- Initial Weapons Training & Weapon Handling Tests
- Marksmanship on the range

Drill & Turnout

- Ceremonial drill
- Uniform care & presentation
- Taking part in parades

Leadership and Instruction

- Developing junior leaders
- Planning and teaching lessons
- Building confidence and responsibility

First Aid

- Essential first aid skills
- Step-by-step emergency response
- Qualifications in first aid

Adventurous Training

- Climbing, kayaking, mountain biking
- Expedition skills

Nationally recognised awards

- Option to work towards the Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Army Section Forecast of Events 2025/26

Brannel's Army section has a dynamic calendar of optional enrichment activities designed to challenge, inspire and develop our cadets. Here's a taster of what's coming up this year:

20–21 September: Off-Road Cycling

Head to Lanhydrock for an off-road cycling adventure run by the Cadet Training Team. Bikes and equipment provided.

Cost per cadet: £10

17–19 October: Basic Fieldcraft & Junior Instructor Course

New cadets will learn essential fieldcraft skills such as cooking in the field, camouflage and packing kit. More experienced cadets will take the Junior Instructor Course to learn how to teach these skills to others.

Cost per cadet: £15

9 November: Remembrance Sunday Parade

Our cadets will proudly represent our CCF by attending a community Remembrance Day service, joining the national act of remembrance for those who have given their lives.

21–23 November: National Navigation Award

Cadets will develop their navigation skills up to two-star level and earn a nationally recognised award. Ideal preparation for Ten Tors participants.

Cost per cadet: £15

2–7 December: Skill at Arms & Shooting Weekend

Cadets will complete Initial Weapons Training or revise for the twice-yearly Weapon Handling Test (WHT) to ensure safe rifle handling. Cadets with a current WHT will focus on improving marksmanship on the range.

Cost per cadet: £15

27–28 March: Advanced Fieldcraft Weekend

Cadets will progress their fieldcraft skills through challenging exercises that include the use of blank ammunition, smoke, and pyrotechnics in realistic scenarios.

Cost per cadet: £15

22–24 May: Skill at Arms & Range Weekend

Another opportunity for cadets to advance their marksmanship skills with a dedicated range package.

Cost per cadet: £15

5–7 June: Adventurous Training Weekend

A weekend of outdoor pursuits including off-road cycling, kayaking, and climbing.

Cost per cadet: £30–£40

18–21 June: Cultural Engagement Trip

Visit London landmarks including Churchill's War Rooms, Horse Guards Parade, and the National Army Museum, with additional stops at The Rifles Museum and Bovington Tank Museum on the return journey. An unforgettable exploration of our national military heritage.

Cost per cadet: £100–£150

July: CCF Central Camp

Spend a week at Okehampton Battle Camp immersed in a variety of activities, building on skills learned throughout the year. Supported by the CTT, this action-packed camp is the highlight of the cadet calendar.

Cost per cadet: £60–£70



What do Brannel Cadets Say?

"I used to get in trouble for talking back or losing my temper, but cadets helped me control my reactions. I've realised staying calm is better than kicking off."

"Before I joined cadets, I used to mess about in class a lot. Now I've learned self-discipline. I can actually sit still and get my work done without getting told off every five minutes!"

"I've made friends I'd never have met outside cadets. We all support each other, especially when someone's lost their boot in a bog!"

"Cadets showed me I don't have to be the best at everything to be part of a team."

"I joined Cadets because I wanted to see what it was like. I was really pleased because it has been great fun, I would recommend it to others! I have had to work really hard, especially when we were preparing for Ten Tors but I felt like I had achieved something big when I was able to navigate, walk distances and carry my rucksack ready for an expedition. We do lots of different activities, I enjoyed the weekend away the most and am really looking forward to the mountain biking opportunity. I would say to anyone thinking about giving Cadets a try, it is well worth it!"

Information for Parents

We understand that as a parent, you want to be fully informed before your child commits to a new activity, especially one as unique as the CCF. Please contact the school if you have any further questions about how we support your child's journey.

What is Expected of Your Child

Joining the CCF is a commitment. Cadets are expected to:

- Wear their cadet uniform smartly and uphold the values and standards of the contingent.
- Attend weekly parades and training sessions as part of their timetable or after school.
- Participate in key training days and occasional weekend field exercises or camps.
- Positively and enthusiastically embrace challenge and opportunities to demonstrate teamwork and leadership.
- Take good care of their kit and return loaned items in good condition.

Process for joining the CCF

Students are eligible to join the cadets from Year 8 and must complete the relevant application form paperwork. Year 7 students are offered Taster Sessions in the Summer Term, and those who are interested in joining will receive forms to take home for their parent or carer to sign.

An Inclusive Experience

We are committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment where every young person feels valued and respected. Cadets from all backgrounds, abilities and experiences have equal opportunities to take part, grow and thrive. We believe that the strength of the cadet community comes from its diversity, and we work hard to foster a culture of kindness, respect, and support where every cadet can build confidence and leadership skills in a safe and encouraging space.

Programme Cost and Financial Support

Joining the CELT CCF programme is completely free. There is no joining fee or subscription charge.

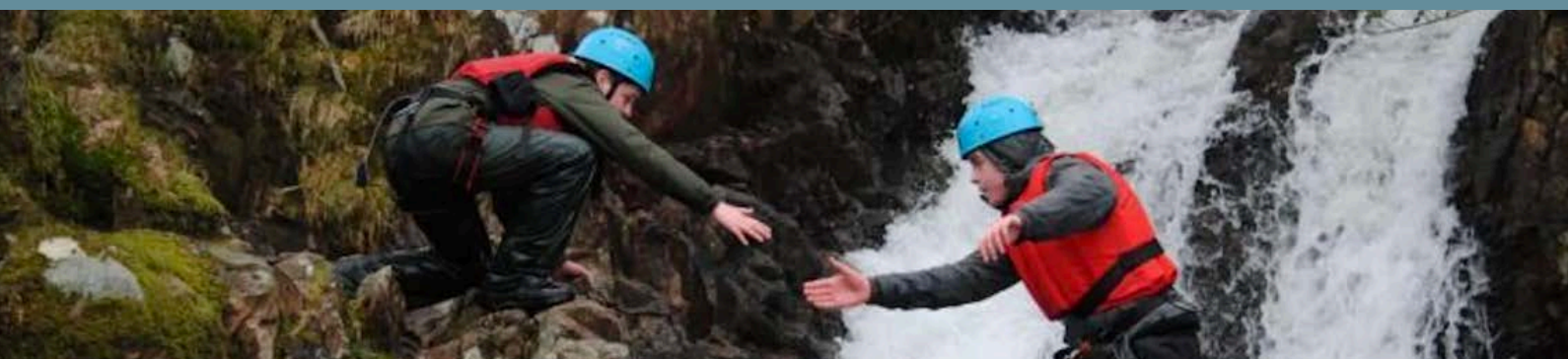
Some enrichment activities, however, like camps or special training weekends, do have a small cost to cover expenses such as food, transport or specialist instruction.

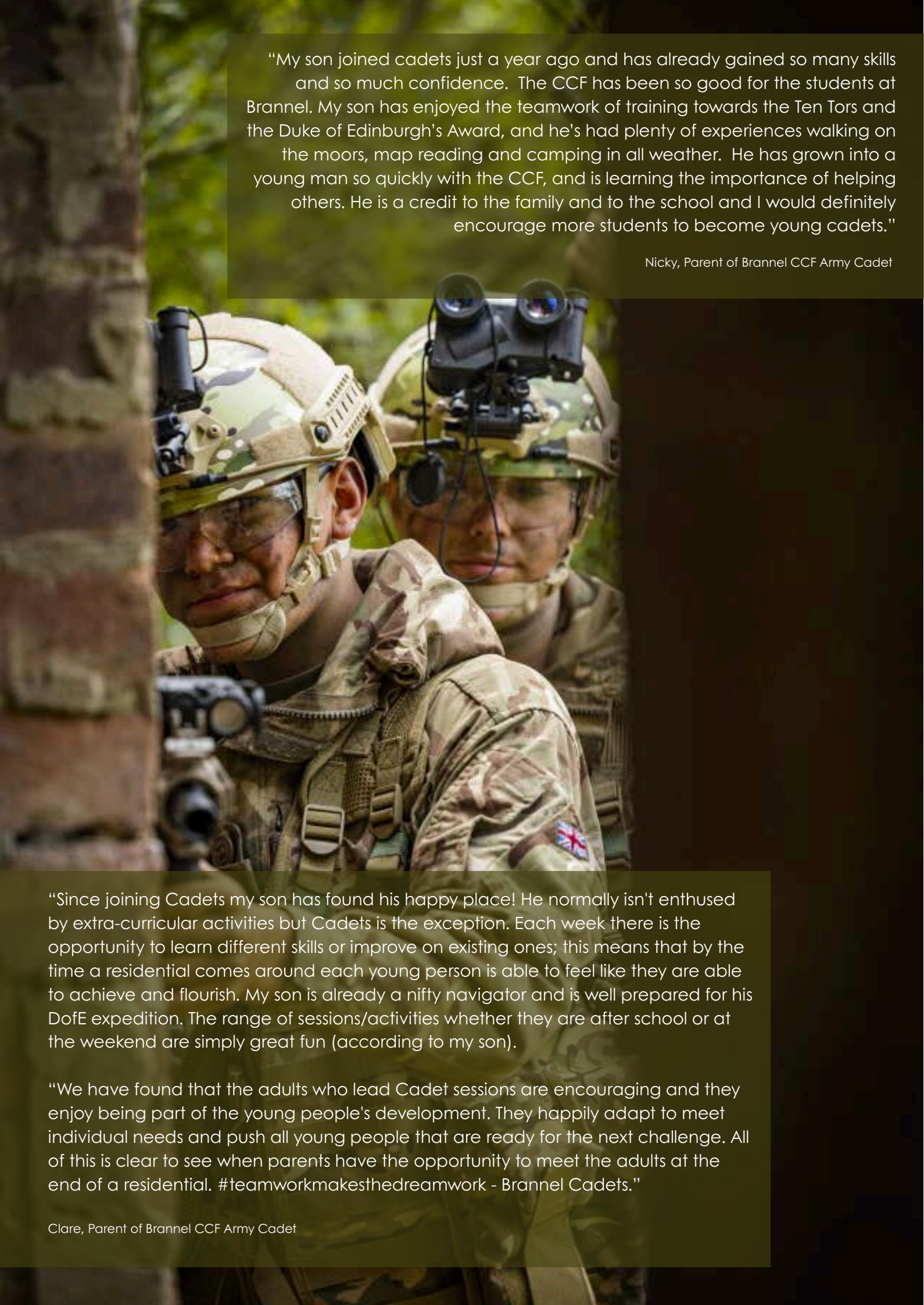
We work hard to keep these costs as low as possible. Thanks to the support and resources provided by the Armed Forces, such as equipment, training expertise, and facilities, we can reduce many costs and offer a high-quality experience without putting financial pressure on families.

No child will ever be excluded from any activity for financial reasons. We have support options available for those who need them.

What We Provide

- *Uniform:* All essential cadet uniform items are provided free of charge or on loan (depending on service section).
- *Training:* A structured syllabus and training programme led by experienced staff and service instructors.
- *Opportunity:* Access to once-in-a-lifetime experiences, including adventure training and military skills, leadership courses, national qualifications and residentials at military bases such as Okehampton Battle Camp on Dartmoor.





“My son joined cadets just a year ago and has already gained so many skills and so much confidence. The CCF has been so good for the students at Brannel. My son has enjoyed the teamwork of training towards the Ten Tors and the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, and he’s had plenty of experiences walking on the moors, map reading and camping in all weather. He has grown into a young man so quickly with the CCF, and is learning the importance of helping others. He is a credit to the family and to the school and I would definitely encourage more students to become young cadets.”

Nicky, Parent of Brannel CCF Army Cadet

“Since joining Cadets my son has found his happy place! He normally isn’t enthused by extra-curricular activities but Cadets is the exception. Each week there is the opportunity to learn different skills or improve on existing ones; this means that by the time a residential comes around each young person is able to feel like they are able to achieve and flourish. My son is already a nifty navigator and is well prepared for his DofE expedition. The range of sessions/activities whether they are after school or at the weekend are simply great fun (according to my son).

“We have found that the adults who lead Cadet sessions are encouraging and they enjoy being part of the young people’s development. They happily adapt to meet individual needs and push all young people that are ready for the next challenge. All of this is clear to see when parents have the opportunity to meet the adults at the end of a residential. #teamworkmakesthedreamwork - Brannel Cadets.”

Clare, Parent of Brannel CCF Army Cadet

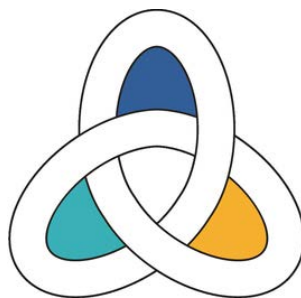
“Our CCF offers something that money cannot buy”

Head Teacher, CEP CCF School, East Anglia



Intelligence plus character
– that is the goal of true education

Martin Luther King Jr.



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