

Our Ref: SST/HBR

Friday 3rd September 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

RE: Combined Cadet Force (ACF) to be launched at The Duston School

I am delighted to announce that The Duston School will be launching its very own Combined Cadet Force (ACF) contingent in January 2022, which will be linked to the Royal Anglicans.

There are CCF contingents in over 400 secondary schools nationally, offering pupils a broad range of challenging, exciting, adventurous and educational activities. Many of the activities that take place over the course of the year aim to enable the development of personal responsibility, leadership and self-discipline in pupils. This fantastic opportunity will provide pupils with an additional extra-curricular opportunity, should they wish to be part of it and the opportunity to gain a wide array of recognised qualifications in disciplines such as first aid, navigation skills, public services and opportunities to engage with the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Starting this unit is just one example of our commitment to providing practical, extra-curricular activities which present our pupils as capable, confident, and high achieving young people. In turn, they will make a positive contribution to the local and wider community as responsible citizens. Kathryn McAuley, Head of Communications at East Midlands Reserve Forces and Cadets Association, is clear that the "CCF is a really valuable programme for students and our approach at East Midlands RFCA is always to stress the educational, fun and self-development aspects of Cadets.

A recent report by the University of Northampton found that being a member of the Cadet Forces can lead to students having greater academic success, improved motivation and overall, better behavioural tendencies which shows that the Cadet Forces can make a huge difference to improve success rates in our young people." More information about the CCF can be found [here](#).

I will be writing again to you during the autumn term with further details about this fantastic extra-curricular opportunity and to detail how pupils can submit an expression of interest to join the school's forthcoming ACF contingent.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Strickland
Principal

Mr S Strickland - Principal - BA (Hons), MA, NPQH

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