

Combined Cadet Force



At Longhill School, the CCF is voluntary for students to join when they turn 13 years old and students normally spend four/five years in the CCF.

“Once you go on a camp, you are hooked!” – One of our new cadets November 2016.

The Combined Cadet Force (CCF) is a voluntary organisation which has support from the Ministry of Defence and enjoys ministerial backing. It exists in schools and colleges to provide a disciplined organisation in which pupils may develop powers of leadership by means of training to promote the qualities of responsibility, self-reliance, resourcefulness, endurance and perseverance. Members of the CCF are not part of the Armed Forces of the Crown and so are not liable for service or compulsory training in the Armed Forces, but the CCF's training does impart a basic knowledge and understanding of the role of the Armed Forces.

What does it do?

The basic training for the CCF takes place during Thursday parades which are held after school between 3.00pm and 5.00pm. Cadets learn basic military and adventurous training skills and work towards nationally recognised qualifications in these areas. Thursday afternoon activities include first aid, weapons training, shooting, map reading, sailing, climbing, canoeing, self-reliance skills (such as field cooking and survival skills) and initiative tests

Yet the CCF offers much more than Thursday parades. Most of the work that is done in school is preparation for the out of school activities organised by the Contingent. Currently, three military camps are run throughout the school year, One at October half term, the second during the Easter holidays and another at the end of summer term which is run by the Army. As most CCF courses and activities are sponsored by the Ministry of Defence, they are normally very reasonably priced and enable cadets to take part in activities involving controlled exposure to the perception of risk in an environment which is safe, controlled, exciting and excellent value for money.

What other opportunities are available?

CCF cadets have access to a variety of courses and opportunities not available to other pupils. In the past, Longhill School cadets have enjoyed placements on camps in Canada and at various venues in the UK.

The Ministry of Defence also organises a number of courses for cadets. Leadership courses are available for all cadets and are highly regarded as preparation for both employment and higher education. Cadets also have the opportunity to gain a

bronze, silver and gold Duke of Edinburgh Award by simply taking part in the CCF and preparing an additional expedition.

If you can think of something that interests you, chances are there will be a course available for you to do it!

Throughout the year cadets also get the chance to take part in many activities, a few of which are listed below:

- **Rock Climbing**
- **Sailing**
- **Archery**
- **Mountain Biking**
- **Hiking/ Expeditions**
- **Lazer Quest**
- **First Aid**
- **Shooting**
- **Watermanship**
- **Command Tasks**



The CCF does not recruit directly for the armed forces; but membership does prepare those who are interested in a career in the services for the expectations and demands of military life. There have been a number of Longhill School cadets entering service careers, but there is just as much to be gained by those who have no interest in regular or reserve service.



How much does it cost?

Full CCF uniform is issued to cadets when they join the Contingent. A small charge of £5 is requested for the issue of a pair of boots. The cadet returns his/her uniform on leaving the Contingent. There are charges for the camps and some additional events, but these are subsidised to keep costs to a minimum.

Who may join?

All pupils from 13 years upwards may join the CCF and can remain in the contingent up to the age of 18 even though they are no longer at Longhill School.

Although those with medical conditions should consult the contingent commander, current CCF regulations do not allow pupils with epilepsy or heart disease to join the CCF. We do our utmost to allow cadets to participate to the greatest extent they/we can safely manage.

How is the Contingent organised?

The CCF is run for the benefit of its members by the cadets themselves, with the supervision of adult staff. Staff volunteer from the teaching and support staff within school itself; however there are also civilian and military staff that come from outside the school that have the skills and training and are committed to the cadet movement. The CCF also has the benefit of support from the local cadet training team.

What are the expectations of the cadets?

Cadets are expected to attend Thursday afternoon parades and should normally endeavor to attend at least one of the school activities a year. It would normally be expected that a cadet joining the CCF would serve at least a term.

Beyond this, we simply expect the cadets to commit themselves wholeheartedly to the activities offered by the Contingent as they will gain most from the training by doing so.



For more information on the CCF in general, visit: combinedcadetforce.org.uk

School Staff involved are:

Capt Pringle CO (Commanding Officer)

Lt Tester Training Officer

The above are officially employed and paid by the Army as Grade B TA Officers

We do have other staff that are no longer are at school, but still help us with the camps.

Others from outside the school:

Maj Peter Lonsdale (Former Longhill Head/Deputy Head)

Capt Dave Burt (Retired Longhill maths teacher)

Capt Louise Capper (From HQ 2 Inf Brigade helps with our Female staffing at camps)

2Lt Judith Wollcott (Formally Longhill exams officer now at Hove Park)

2Lt Susie Walker (ex – services now studying for a masters in outdoor education)

The above are also officially employed and paid by the Army as Grade B TA Officers

All have been DBS cleared.

If you want to know more, or any other information feel free to ring the school or just email- ccfstaff@longhill.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter- @longhill_ccf

**Mr Pringle,
Capt,
O/C Longhill School CCF**

Pictured below is us on our most recent Central Camp. Central Camp is a camp during the summer term where anywhere between 10 and 15 schools all take part in activities, leading to competition day. Most of these schools are private, well-funded schools so to beat these schools (as we often do!) it is always a great credit to our school and our cadets.

This year we won awards and trophies, which you can see, along with all our awards in the trophy cabinet in reception, so come and have a look.

