



Dear Parent/Carer,

**National Citizen Service (NCS) is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all 15 – 17 year olds that builds skills and confidence and helps them get ahead in work and life.**

The programme also helps your teenager connect to your local community through social action projects designed and delivered by young people.

Now in its fourth year, with young people from nearly 3,000 schools participating, our ambition is to ensure as many young people as possible regardless of background, ability or ambitions, get the chance to experience and reap the rewards of NCS.

It's important to us that all young people get to take part - so the programme takes place outside the school timetable during the spring, summer and autumn holidays. With the backing of the government, participation fees are capped at £50 with financial support available on a case-by-case basis.

There are a number of compelling benefits to taking part. NCS will improve your child's CV by giving them important skills for work and life that are hard to teach in the classroom alone. The programme will help your child contribute to their local community and in so doing meet new people from different backgrounds and develop their social skills.

The programme consists of 5 phases:

1. Firstly, they spend time away from home enjoying instructor-led group activities such as kayaking, high ropes and first aid.
2. Then they spend time in university style accommodation, learning new skills, meeting with businesses and organisations in the local community
3. Back at home they highlight issues in their local community they would like to change. With their new skills they plan and pitch their chosen social action project.
4. Following which it's time to make their team project happen. Projects range from raising money for a chosen charity, raising awareness of local issues, or regenerating public spaces.
5. Finally, they graduate - receiving a certificate signed by the Prime Minister. And as part of the NCS Graduate Programme they get access to unique opportunities to continue volunteering and stay connected to each other and their local community.

As your local provider, we at **Charlton Athletic Community Trust** ask for your support in giving your teenager the chance to sign up and get to take part alongside the thousands of other teens across the country that will be completing NCS this year.

We are delivering our Summer programme in your local area! Don't miss out on the opportunity to get your son/daughter on the bus to start their NCS experience.

To find out more and help your teenager secure a place to join the thousands of young people taking part this year, **call our contact centre on 01233 600134** where they will be more than happy to help. Alternatively, log onto **[www.NCSyes.co.uk](http://www.NCSyes.co.uk)** to register your interest and find out lots more info about what NCS can do for your teenager.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Carpenter - CACT NCS Programme Manager

