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Dear Parents and Carers

Subject

I am delighted to let you know that this term your child will be given the opportunity to sign up to NCS with The Challenge, a once-in-a-lifetime experience for 15 – 17 year olds that builds skills and confidence and helps them get ahead in work and life.

The Challenge is the country's largest provider of NCS (National Citizen Service), a government-funded programme that is delivering places in Greenwich. They deliver a part-residential programme which begins with 3 parts that take place over 14 days, with breaks in between, after exams in the summer.

The first two parts are residential, with all meals, kit and accommodation provided. First, teams get active by developing their leadership and teamwork skills, create friendships and build confidence by working with some of the best outdoor instructors in the UK. After a short break, young people return for part two where they stay in university style accommodation and gain new skills in an area they are passionate about. Finally, teams make their mark and have the unique opportunity to design and deliver their own social action project. Teams then graduate, receive a signed certificate from the prime minister and can join the graduate programme, The Challenge Society.

Each place on the programme costs over £1000, but as it is government backed, all The Challenge asks for is a contribution of £50. A discounted price of £35 is available if the payment is made online before 5th February 2014. There are no hidden costs – all food, transport, accommodation and specialist kit is provided. Financial support is also available to ensure that cost is not a barrier – just get in touch with your local coordinator directly on the details below.

Representatives from NCS with The Challenge are speaking at a Year 11/12 assembly on 8 January 2014, during which your child will have the opportunity to express their interest in the programme. They will also be coming into the school during lunch times and there will be an opportunity to talk to them to answer any questions you may have.

For more information and to book a place visit www.NCSTheChallenge.org, or contact the local Schools Relationship Manager Jessica Staufenberg, at jessica.staufenberg@the-challenge.org or on 07794 484698.

We highly recommend this unique and valuable opportunity and hope you will encourage your child to take part.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Denise Armstrong', written over a horizontal line.

Denise Armstrong
Pastoral Leader Year 11

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Odd', written over a horizontal line.

Heather Odd
Pastoral Leader Year 12