



BUDMOUTH COMBINED CADET FORCE

Contingent Commander: Major Mark Phipps
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28th February 2025

Skill at Arms Training

Dear Parent/Carer

Part of our Army Cadet syllabus is Skill at Arms. This requires cadets to learn how to maintain and operate then pass a weapon handling test on the Cadet GP Rifle. Once this test is passed, cadets will be able to develop their marksmanship principles during live firing activities and fire blank ammunition during a section attack. One opportunity to experience these activities will be at this year's Summer Camp. All cadets that are planning on attending this year's Army Section Summer Camp MUST have passed the Weapon Handling Test by 1st June 2025.

As we do not hold our own weapons, we have had to find an alternative solution. The Cadet Training Team at Bovington have kindly agreed to run weekly skill at arms lessons, for our year 9 cadets, commencing 4th March 2025. We will leave the academy at 1400 and return by 1730 each week. It is anticipated that each cadet will require a minimum of 8 weeks of training in order to pass the weapon handling test. For those cadets in year 10 and above, who have previously passed a weapons handling test, alternative arrangements will be made. Once these arrangements are in place, I will confirm with cadets and parents.

There are 12 lessons, in which cadets will learn progressive skills in order to maintain and operate the weapon. As such, it is imperative that students attend all sessions. Any absence may make it more challenging for your child to successfully pass the test at the first opportunity. If attendance becomes an issue, I will be in contact to discuss how we can move forward.

There will be nono cost for this training. Cadets will need to be wearing full and correct CCF uniform with their smocks and berets. They will also need to bring a water bottle and a snack.

If you would like your son/daughter to take part in this course, then please complete the [parental permission form](#).

We will be attending Summer Camp at Okehampton Battle Camp 29th June - 4th July 2025. There will be a briefing regarding Summer Camp next week. I will send a letter to cadets and parents the following week with information and requesting sign up. There are 30 places available and priority will be given to senior cadets.

If you have any questions then please do contact me by email mhipps@budmouth-aspirations.org

Yours sincerely

Major M Phipps

Contingency Commander,

Budmouth CCF

