



**LATHOM
HIGH SCHOOL**



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Headteacher: Mrs J M Galbraith



2 February 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

I am delighted to let you know that this term your child will be given the opportunity to sign up to National Citizen Service (NCS), a government-funded programme for 15-17 year olds. Working through physical, personal and creative challenges, this once-in-a-lifetime experience empowers young people to build skills and confidence to get ahead in work and life, whilst engaging with their local area.

The Challenge, the country's largest provider of NCS, is delivering thousands of places across the Summer 2017. It is an 18 day programme set up to develop new skills throughout the entire process with the first two parts being residential, with all meals, kit and accommodation provided. First, teams develop their leadership and teamwork skills by working with some of the best outdoor instructors in the UK, enabling them to create friendships and build confidence. After a short break, young people return for phase two where they stay away from home in university accommodation and gain new skills in an area they are passionate about. Finally, teams have the unique opportunity to design, pitch and deliver their own social action project. It culminates in a Graduation Ceremony where they receive a signed certificate from the Prime Minister and join the graduate programme, The Challenge Society.

Delivering the NCS programme costs hundreds of pounds per head, but the maximum price will always be £50. Students at Lathom High School will also receive an early applicants' discount of £35 if made online before Thursday 2 March. There is financial support and bursaries available if needed. The application fee covers all accommodation, food, transport, and specialist kit for the residential parts of the programme.

Representatives from NCS are speaking at a Year 11 assembly on Thursday 9 February during which your child will have the opportunity to express their interest in the programme.

For more information, visit NCSTHECHALLENGE.ORG where you will also be able to book a place on the website.

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

Yours sincerely

Miss A Fairclough
DSL for Safeguarding



