



Specialist Engagement Team WWM
Defence Engagement Hub
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Dear Head of Careers/Careers Teacher

Royal Air Force – Specialist Engagement Team Activities

I should like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the range of activities which the Royal Air Force Specialist Engagement Team for Wales & West Midlands can offer your educational establishment, free of charge (with the exception of some virtual STEM activities where there may be a very small cost involved for materials). Owing to the current COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing lockdown restrictions, adhering to Government regulations and concerns for health and safety, my team have been developing new ways to communicate with establishments on a virtual level as we are unable to proceed with our usual face to face engagement. Our preferred method for delivery is via MS Teams but we are open to whichever platform your establishment uses.

These activities, whether conducted in your assembly hall, classroom or gymnasium aim to enthuse and invigorate students and cadets; whilst demonstrating the importance of good teamwork, clear communication and confident leadership. This is to help you prepare the students for a challenging life beyond the classroom. They also provide a brief insight into the variety of careers the RAF has to offer, but invariably appeal to – and sometimes even inspire – the great majority of students, whether or not they have the Armed Forces aspirations or cadet experience. These activities are principally aimed at age group 11+ (Years 7 - 13). Once face to face engagement can recommence, when it is safe to do so and in line with the Government guidelines, we are able to offer a lot more opportunities to explore the importance of teamwork, communication and leadership.

To elaborate a little further, our Specialist Engagement Team usually work in pairs covering the Wales and West Midlands area; they are drawn from various trades across the RAF and are therefore able to provide a variety of genuine insights into what makes the service work. All activities are risk-assessed, inclusive and free of charge. Our trained RAF staff are self-sufficient in terms of set-up and delivery.

The full range of Specialist Engagement Team activities are attached to this letter. I hope this explains a little about our activities and what we have to offer. I know from experience that you will not be disappointed if you choose to invite the Specialist Engagement Team into your establishment (virtually or face to face once restrictions allow).

Please feel free to contact myself by email (carrie.moore100@mod.gov.uk) or by telephone on 07966 251449, whether this is to discuss or book any of our services or simply with any questions or queries you may have.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

C L Moore

Royal Air Force Specialist Engagement Team WWM Activities

We offer the following activities:

VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES:

Careers Presentations - The briefing aims purely to inform students about the career opportunities available to them in the RAF from an apprenticeship to commissioned officer, along with other opportunities such as sport and adventure training.

Question & Answer (Q&A) Sessions – chat session where students can ask questions about life in the RAF, chat with personnel from specific trade groups (job roles); chat with personnel from specific ethnic backgrounds; female-only chats. This list is almost endless and can cover a variety of topics.

STEM Activities – challenges that are based round STEM subjects: loading an aircraft; building a tower; making an aircraft. There is a very small cost to establishments for these activities depending upon the activity due to materials required (for example, paper, Sellotape/sticky tape, marshmallows, spaghetti).

FACE TO FACE ACTIVITIES:

Personal Development Training (PDT) Including STEM PDT - Generally regarded as our signature activity, PDT involves practical exercises which aim to improve confidence, teamwork and leadership whilst having fun. We adopt an inclusive approach and find that all the participants learn something about their interactions with others and invariably take something positive away from the session.

PDT can be adapted to suit your establishment and students. The Engagement teams have an abundance of equipment at their disposal. Activities can involve anything from 60 minutes of complex problem solving to short sharp 5-minute challenges. The team can be booked all day with the same students or the session can be broken down in order to give more students the opportunity to experience the activities. One major strength of PDT is that individuals are drawn out of their comfort zones and shown ways of stretching their abilities in a safe environment. Our STEM Ambassadors also deliver a range of activities utilising STEM Mta & LEGO equipment. Key benefits of PDT include:

- Inclusive approach with students learning about themselves and their inter-action with others
- Practical exercises which improve teamwork, leadership and communication
- Flexible activities (from 60-minute complex problem solving to 5-minute challenges)
- We can work with all day with one group, or provide shorter sessions with more students
- PDT requires a group size of approximately 10-25 students
- PDT sessions can be flexible but usually run from 90 minutes – full day
- We bring our own equipment and require minimal 'life support' on the day

Assemblies/Careers Presentations - The briefing aims purely to inform students about the career opportunities available to them in the RAF from an apprenticeship to commissioned officer, along with other opportunities such as sport and adventure training, but for interested students it also provides an opportunity to request further details, or to ask about the application process. Ideally, we would like to present to large groups of students and whole year groups.

Careers Fair - The team can add another dimension to any Careers Fair, organised by your establishment. This can be low key; a recruiter with a banner tablecloth and literature or it can include the showing of films and a presentation if required.

Speed Networking/Guess My Job - Exactly as it sounds! Royal Air Force personnel from a variety of different roles will engage with small student groups and talk about their lived experience. This helps break down the barriers and students soon realise that we are just ordinary people – doing ‘No Ordinary Job’.

Station Visit to RAF Brize Norton / RAF Cosford - There are very limited opportunities for you to attend a day visit to either RAF Brize Norton (Oxfordshire) or RAF Cosford (Shropshire). Please note that the cost of transport would fall to your establishment, the RAF are unable to provide transport or help with these costs. In addition to a station visit a flexible programme can be produced to include.

- RAF Careers Presentation
- Personal Development Training
- Low ropes

Operation X (Op X) - The Royal Air Force's interactive humanitarian aid relief desk top experience. This scenario-based exercise is designed to promote the RAF as a force for good around the world. It highlights the personal qualities that our 8 trade groups promote when working together to achieve the mission. This activity runs for a minimum of 90 minutes and is designed for groups of between 16-32 participants, ideally Year 9 students and above.