

► FIND OUT ABOUT DRILL & CEREMONIAL CAMP

The National Drill & Ceremonial Camp (D&C) aims to increase the knowledge, experience and enjoyment of drill, ceremonial and parade activities. This week-long camp usually takes place in August for around 350 cadets and 65 staff and is supported by a small team of RAF Armourers. Additionally, about 60 cadet musicians and staff join the camp to train and then support the final parade.

The first D&C Camp took place in 2014. In 2015 the camp became a national activity and it continues to allow cadets and staff from both the ATC and CCF (RAF) to engage in training that is aimed at supporting the delivery of large-scale parades and events.

In 2017, the D&C Camp became the main focus of the Air Cadets 75th Anniversary Flagship Parade held in front of the College Hall at RAF Cranwell. The Reviewing Officer on this occasion was the Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier KCB, CBE, DFC, ADC.

CAMP OUTLINE

- The camp takes place on a Defence Training Estate camp with its main focus being to deliver a large-scale final parade by the end of the week.
- After progressing through foot drill technique, rifle drill is introduced and the training gradually builds into a parade format.
- MTP/DPM uniform is worn during this training due to the physical nature of the activity.
- Cadets also learn a continuity drill sequence and participate in various D&C workshops.
- The culmination of the camp is the final parade which usually takes place on a RAF station. Blue uniform is worn for this parade and the RAFAC band form part of the parade format that is reviewed and inspected by a senior RAF Officer who is accompanied by Commandant RAF Air Cadets.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

- Foot drill, rifle drill and parade ground training take place during the mornings, with the afternoons being dedicated to the delivery of informal workshops where cadets learn about other aspects of D&C including: parade layouts, parade planning and uniform preparation.
- Cadets also learn about banner drill and are introduced to lower level engagement with sword drill and pace stick drill.
- Evenings include a short consolidation of the parade training or continuity sequence and a Sunset Ceremony takes place on the Wednesday evening.

COST

- The cost is about £40. This covers D&C branded items including; a polo shirt, t-shirt, water bottle and baseball cap.
- Other D&C branded items like softshell jackets and hoodies are available at extra cost.

ELIGIBILITY

- ✓ Open to ATC and CCF(RAF) cadets and staff.
- ✓ Cadets must be aged 14-19 yrs.
- ✓ Good standard of basic Foot Drill
- ✓ Not required to be experienced in Rifle Drill

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