



OUR PROGRAMMES: “ETHOS”

What is Ethos?

Ethos is a programme to help young people make the transition from primary to secondary education.

Over 70% of our instructors have an ex-Forces background. Our team use their military skills and experience to empathise with young people, earn their trust and share with them the values they inherited from their service. Our Ethos programme draws on these values: Selflessness, Endeavour, Resilience, Dedication, Loyalty and Discipline.

Typically, our Ethos programme works with a secondary school and the four main primary schools which feed it. It helps whole classes of young people prepare for the step up to secondary school and, when they arrive, give the students the skills and confidence to tackle new routines and challenges.

“We believe that pupils in the most challenging of circumstances could benefit the most from this, although the positive impact of military ethos can be felt by all pupils, no matter their background or level of attainment.”

Department for Education, December 2012

Ethos is operating in four locations in England at the moment, working with 1,200 young people and 20 schools, as part of a Government-supported pilot. Our full programme is available in schools from September 2013 (Academic Year 2013/14).

“It has been a great experience for the children to have an instructor who had a background in the Armed Forces. He approaches things differently to a teacher and brings a new dynamic to their learning.”

Ros Williamson, Headteacher of Boothferry Primary School, Goole, Yorks.

ENGAGE.

PREPARE.

DEVELOP.

How does it work?

We tailor our programmes to the needs of the schools and the students to get the best results.

With Ethos, our SkillForce instructors work with classes of primary school children one afternoon a week. In a fun and engaging way, the instructors help prepare the young people for the step up to big school with engaging exercises and challenges. This includes hands-on classroom activities as well as projects in the local community. In the new autumn term, when the children arrive at secondary school, our instructors continue to engage and help the students adjust to new routines, timetables and ways of learning. The course runs alongside normal lessons at school.

We would expect an Ethos programme to start in September and run for a full academic year. There may be other options available, so please get in touch with us to discuss. We put a range of evaluation tools in place to measure success and positive outcomes for the young people, including baseline surveys, course materials and behaviour assessments.

How much does it cost?

SkillForce is a charity and operates on a not-for-profit basis. We use fundraising to subsidise the cost of our programmes in schools. We would be delighted to discuss options with you.



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