**Royal Air Force Air Cadets**

**Middlesex Wing Headquarters**

Royal Air Force Northolt

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14th June 2019

Dear Head Teacher

**Reference: Annual Camp Royal Air Force Station Boulmer 13th-20th July 2019**

The Royal Air Force Air Cadets is a national youth organisation, sponsored by the Royal Air Force. It’s aims are to:

1. Promote and encourage a practical interest in aviation and the Royal Air Force among young people.
2. Provide training which will be useful in the Services and civilan life.
3. Encourage the spirit of adventure and develop qualities of leadership and good citizenship.

In addition to being the largest participant in the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme, the organisation also provides a varied training programme including leadership and citizenship training and an organised academic and vocational STEM based syllabus.

Part of this syllabus is the opportunity for air cadets to attend a annual camp at an active Royal Air Force Station. In addition to learning how the Royal Air Force operates and getting a taste of service life, the week also acts as a culmination of all the young person’s training over the year. Training often takes part in another part of the United Kingdom or sometimes overseas. On this occastion the camp will be in Northumbria. As we are sponsored by the Royal Air Force, a week’s camp including all transport, accommodation, activities and food is provided for between £35 and £50 enabling this activity to be truly accessable for all. However with the reduction in the number of active Royal Air Force Stations, the number of places the Royal Air Force can offer has reduced. However a reduced number of stations now often provide week long camps over a longer period. This is very welcome but has the unfortunate impact being that some of these camps now occur in the final week of the summer term for some schools. The holder of this letter has been selected to attend such a camp in term time. Whilst this is regretful, I am seeking your permission for the holder to be authorised to attend this camp. As I am sure you will agree, the oppurtunities are both educational and worthwhile and it would be a great shame for the holder to miss out on such an experience.I must stress that with the reduction in camp places, the holder may not receive such a similar opportunity for several years. I am also hoping that the fact that this is the last week of term will reduce the disruption to their academic year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need any further details.

Yours Faithfully

Darren L Hart

Squadron Leader RAFAC

For Officer Commanding

Middlesex Wing