SEA CADETS
PREPARING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR LIFE

Who we are

– Sea Cadets is proud to be the main MOD Sponsored Cadet Force for the Royal Navy

– Open to all young people aged 9[1] to 18 years old across the United Kingdom

– Young people are offered the Sea Cadets Experience

– Pre-pandemic,[2] engaging 14,670 young people in three groups:

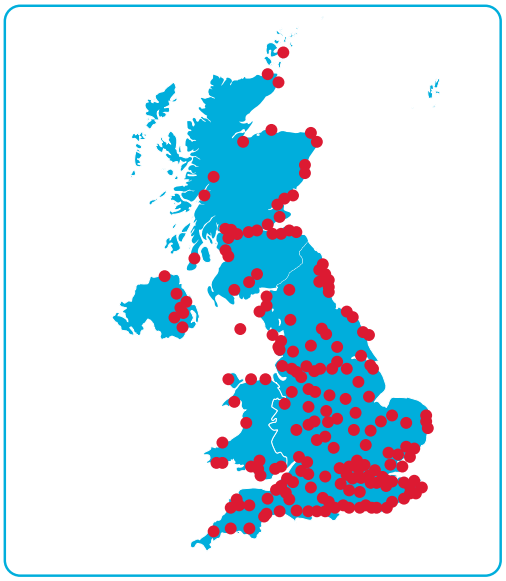
- Junior Sea Cadets (9-12 years of age) – 25%
- Sea Cadets (12-18 years of age) – 65%
- Royal Marines Cadets (13-18 years of age) – 10%

– Sea Cadets is part of a national independent charity (MSSC) providing the structure, programmes and funding for all activity outside the unit (see appendix)

– Delivered by 9,000 volunteers in 400 local units, each a separate charity federated to MSSC

Inclusion amongst our cadets

Socio-economic status:	1 in 4 from most left behind local authorities in the UK
Looked after children:	11 times national average of looked after children (7.5% of cadets)
Young carers:	7% of cadets compared to an estimate of the national average of 5%
Disability:	3 times national average of autistic people, (3% of cadets) and broadly representative of the general population for disabilities overall
Sexuality:	At or above national average of LGBTQ+
Gender:	37% female
Ethnicity:	8% non-white minorities



1. Following successful pilot – we have lowered age from 10 to 9 in targeted growth areas
2. As at 01 April 2020

SEA CADETS

Patron: HRH The Princess Royal
Marine Society & Sea Cadets, a charity registered in England and Wales 313013, Scotland SC037808

Making an impact

Improves social mobility
Emphasised by 62% from semi/disadvantaged backgrounds

Adds to social cohesion
A place to create strong friendships across backgrounds

Offers purposeful activities
Reduces social exclusion, increases academic aspiration

Provides structure
Providing clear boundaries in which young people can thrive

Delivers life skills
Increasing self-confidence and resilience

Long-term outcomes
A positive impact for adulthood

Benefitting volunteers
Improves wellbeing, employability and self-esteem

"How Sea Cadets helps young people today: A summary of the Evidence" launched at the House of Lords. The report for the first time brings together the compelling evidence of the effectiveness and impact of the Sea Cadet Experience for young people and wider society.

95% believed Sea Cadets had a positive long term impact on their life

80% reported that Sea Cadets increased their independence and skills long term

70% thought Sea Cadets helped them cope with challenges in the longer term

61% credited Sea Cadets with inspiring considering a Royal Navy or career in the maritime sector

What we do

We offer young people experiences they wouldn't otherwise have - getting them out on the water and growing in confidence.

Our cadets:

- Learn to sail, row, paddleboard, and drive powerboats
- Get hands-on with marine engineering and navigation
- Take part in camping, hiking, and adventure training
- March in parades and engage in drill and ceremonial events
- Earn internationally recognised qualifications (DofE, RYA, First Aid, BTEC, and more)
- Build leadership skills, confidence, and resilience through structured progression

Is Sea Cadets Part of the Royal Navy?
We are a charity, not a branch of the armed forces, but we are affiliated to the Royal Navy and follow its customs and traditions. Our training instils the core values of Courage, Discipline, Respect, Commitment, Honesty, and Integrity.