

# COULD YOU BE A LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE CADET?



Cadet recruitment is open from  
Monday 9 May - Sunday 29 May 2022

Apply online now:

[www.leics.police.uk/cadets](http://www.leics.police.uk/cadets)





## Could you...

- Improve your confidence
- Make new friends
- Gain qualifications
- Learn about policing
- Help your community

**If you live in Leicester, Leicestershire or Rutland and will be aged between 13 to 17 years old by 31 August 2022, you can apply to be a Leicestershire Police cadet.**

All Leicestershire Police cadets have the potential to become future police officers, PCSOs or police staff. The cadet programme is our way of enhancing your skills, knowledge and confidence to help you excel at whatever you choose to do in the future.

We welcome cadets from any background, social group, gender, ethnicity, ability / disability and whether you have an interest in the police or not. We welcome young people who may have previously been in trouble with the police or may feel some disconnection with their peers and community.



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## what will I do as a police cadet?

As a Leicestershire Police cadet, you will take part in weekly unit meetings where you'll be guided through an **action-packed curriculum** and will be given the opportunity to complete formal qualifications ([BTEC](#) and [ILM](#)) in **teamwork, leadership and management** and the [Duke of Edinburgh award](#).

You'll receive inputs on a wide range of police and community related topics, meet specialist policing units and take part in teambuilding activities and games.

Unit meetings follow the academic year and will not run during the school holidays or on bank holidays.

**THE BEST THING ABOUT CADETS  
IS MAKING NEW FRIENDS.**



As well as the weekly session, you will be asked to commit to volunteering for a minimum of 3 hours per month on policing and community initiatives with your unit.

This can be anything from assisting the police with public events, taking part in police operations to support our police officers or sharing crime prevention advice with members of the community.

## Message to looked after children from Sergeant Tim McKagan

Tim spent the first 18 years of his life in the care system. He was removed from his biological parents at six months old and spent the majority of his childhood in children's homes.

He's now a Leicestershire Police Sergeant and works in the Violence and Complex Crime Unit. His job is to prevent serious violence with children and young people.



Tim wants to encourage more young people in care to sign up to the police cadet programme, and he has a message for you...

"I want you all to have hope – you can't always have control over what happens in your life, but if you're patient and willing to have hope and something you want to achieve, then you have to hold onto that.

"I got caught up in the 'wrong crowd' and was being exposed to dangerous situations. These years were some of the darkest times of my life and I started self-harming and experimented with drugs. I just couldn't understand what I had done wrong and desperately needed some sense of belonging. I felt lost.

"I made many mistakes on my journey and found myself in dangerous situations, but I had an ability to recover, a toughness about me, a resilience – and you have it too.

"I made myself clear goals and stuck to them. Having a career was one of my goals and although it was a long journey to get the job as a police officer, I could not be prouder of myself.

"I am no better than anyone else. What I have achieved and I am immensely proud of, you can achieve it too. Believe in yourself."

## where are the cadet units?

Leicestershire has 10 police cadet units in the following locations:

- **Leicester City Centre**
- **East Leicester (Hamilton)**
- **East Leicester (St Matthews)**
- **South Leicester (Wigston)**
- **West Leicester (Beaumont Leys)**
- **Loughborough**
- **Coalville**
- **Hinckley**
- **Melton Mowbray**
- **Market Harborough**

You will be asked to list your top three choices.

We will always do our best to place you in your first choice of unit, but sometimes cadets are placed in their second or third choice due to the number of cadets in each unit.

If there are any issues, you can speak to our cadet co-ordinator.

## frequently asked questions

### **Q: What skills will I learn?**

A: You will have the opportunity to develop your own social skills. Our programmes will encourage your leadership, communication, presentation and learning skills that you will be able to use in your school, college and community. We also offer first aid skills and other non-police-based skill development.

### **Q: Do I need any educational qualifications to join?**

A: No, we welcome cadets from all educational abilities. We also offer the chance to gain skills-based awards such as the [Duke of Edinburgh scheme](#), a [BTEC Level 2](#) in Teamwork and Personal Development in the Community and an [Institution of Leadership and Management \(ILM\) qualification Level 3](#).

### **Q: Why am I expected to volunteer in my community?**

A: One of the main reasons that young people join the police cadets is because they want to make a difference in their communities. We will give you local, national and even international opportunities to volunteer.

### **Q: Can I join if I've been in trouble with the police?**

A: Yes, you may still be able to join even if you have a criminal conviction. Everyone deserves a second chance and we will do our best to manage any behaviour you may have been in trouble with in the past. We'll ask you to be honest with us on your application form and we'll consider each case individually.

### **Q: Can I join if a family member has been in trouble with the police?**

A: Yes, you may still join. We do not judge people on their family background. It's not where you have been that interests us, it's where you are going!

## **Q: I have a disability. Can I join?**

A: Yes, you can. We try to be as inclusive as possible and will support you to the best of our ability. For example, most of our units meet in educational premises which already have many facilities to assist disabilities. Please make sure you tell us of any reasonable adjustments we can make for your health and comfort.

## **Q: Do I have to pay anything to join?**

A: There is an annual subscription fee of £30 which will be used exclusively for the maintenance and benefit of the police cadet programme. You can be exempt from paying the fees under certain circumstances. Please contact the cadet coordinator if you have concerns about this: [cadet.admin@leics.police.uk](mailto:cadet.admin@leics.police.uk). Any conversation will be in the strictest confidence.

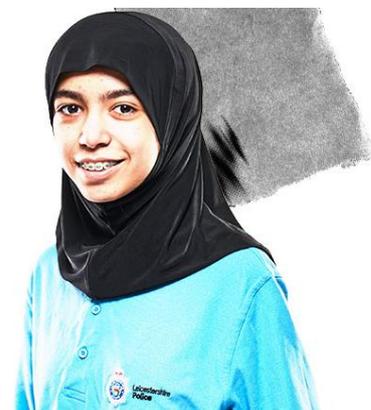
## **Q: When does the programme start?**

A: The programme will begin in September 2022 and will run until August 2023.

## **Q: Will I have a career in the police if I join as a cadet?**

A: Being a cadet will give you an insight into British policing and you may decide to join the wider policing family in the future. Being a cadet will not guarantee your future policing career, but it will help you make that decision.

**DON'T LET ANYONE ELSE DECIDE  
YOUR FUTURE, TAKE CONTROL.**



## the recruitment process

If you will be aged between 13-17 years by the 31 August 2022 you can apply to become a Leicestershire Police Cadet.

### Key dates and times

- Recruitment opens: 9 May 2022
- Recruitment closes: 29 May 2022
  
- Start of cadet programme: September 2022
- End of the cadet programme: August 2023

You must apply online by Sunday 29 May 2022 to be considered for a place on the 2022-23 programme.

Once you have submitted your application form, it will be reviewed by our HR recruitment team.

We will contact you on or before 30 June to let you know if you have been successful in gaining a place on the programme.

**I WANT TO BE A POLICE  
OFFICER WHEN I'M OLDER.**



## application guidance

The application form will provide us with some personal information about you, including two questions that you are required to complete:

1. **Why do you want to be a Volunteer Police Cadet?**
2. **What are you hoping to gain from becoming a Volunteer Police Cadet?**

This information will be used in the selection process. Please read the questions carefully, think about your reasons for wishing to become a police cadet and provide us with as much information as you can.

Please ensure you submit a completed Guardian/Parent consent declaration form with your application. The form can be downloaded at the bottom of the [application page](#).

### **Do you need more information?**

Please visit our website for further information

[www.leics.police.uk/cadets](http://www.leics.police.uk/cadets)

or contact the police cadet team by emailing

[cadets.admin@leics.police.uk](mailto:cadets.admin@leics.police.uk)