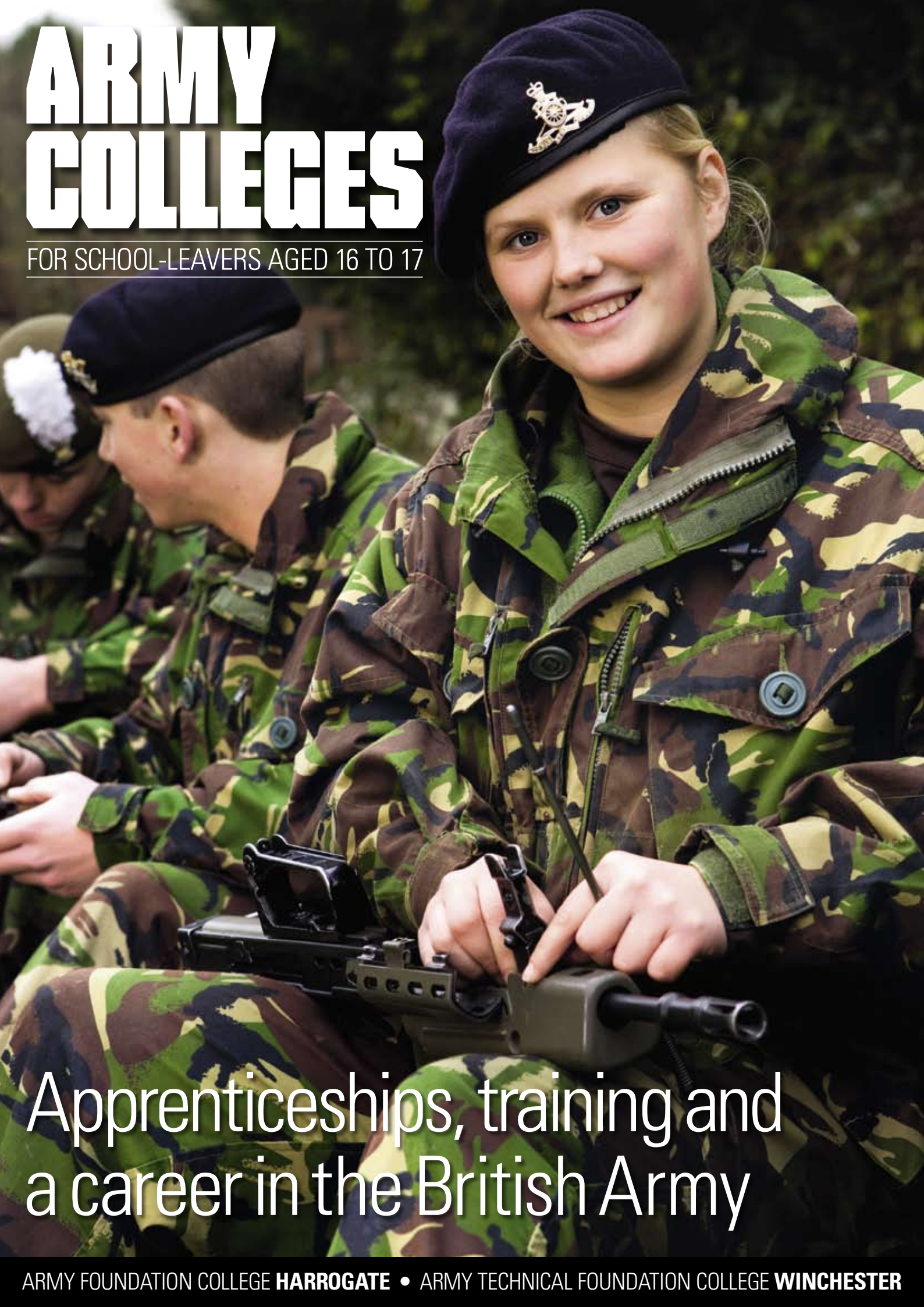


ARMY COLLEGES

FOR SCHOOL-LEAVERS AGED 16 TO 17



Apprenticeships, training and
a career in the British Army

GO TO COLLEGE, GET PAID, GET TRAINED... JOIN THE BRITISH ARMY

LEARN SKILLS, EARN MONEY AND BECOME A SOLDIER AT ONE OF THE ARMY'S SPECIALIST COLLEGES FOR SCHOOL-LEAVERS

Welcome to the prospectus for the Army's 'junior entry' colleges. These military colleges cater especially for young men and women aged 16 to 17 joining the British Army.

At the colleges, soldiers under training gain a mixture of military and vocational skills before going on to learn a trade and join an Army unit at the end of their course. They are paid a salary of over £260 a week gross – more than £13,600 in total. Once they finish the course and start their Army job, pay goes up to over £17,000 per year.

There are two junior entry colleges, one at Harrogate in Yorkshire and one at Winchester, Hampshire. Both boast exceptional facilities for training, learning and playing sport. So whether soldiers under training are tackling an obstacle on the assault course, a

question in the classroom or an opponent on the sports field, they do so in an outstanding environment.

The Army sees the colleges as the training grounds for some of its brightest future soldiers – meaning that if you are accepted into them you will be getting the best possible start to an Army career.

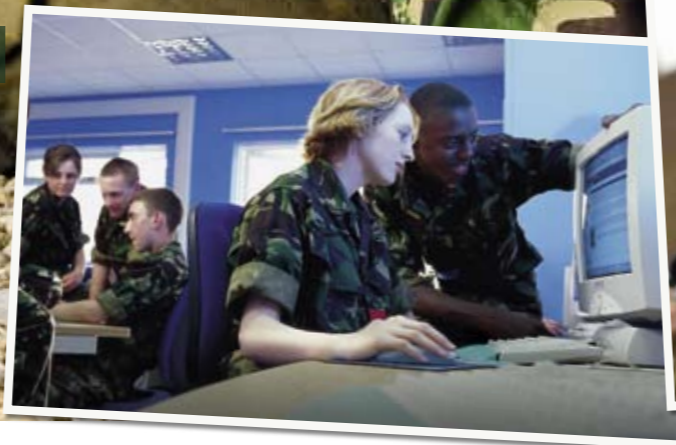
You will have the benefit of excellent teachers – both Army and civilian – guiding you every step of the way, helping you fulfil your potential. And then when you finish the course an exciting and rewarding job, packed full of challenge and opportunity, awaits you.

So read through this prospectus to find out whether life at an Army college, and training to become a soldier, could be for you. For more details get in touch with your local Army Careers Information Office or visit army.mod.uk/inyourarea



THE ARMY COLLEGE OFFER

- OVER £260 A WEEK WHILE YOU'RE AT COLLEGE
- A GUARANTEED ARMY JOB
- ACTION-PACKED TRAINING
- VALUABLE QUALIFICATIONS
- SKILLS FOR LIFE
- OUTSTANDING FACILITIES



4-5 THE BRITISH ARMY
The opportunities and rewards of an Army job

6-9 THE TRAINING COURSE
Learn new skills, gain qualifications and have fun

10-11 MOVING ON
What you can expect to happen after college

12-15 THE COLLEGES
Fantastic learning, living and leisure facilities

16-17 THE TRAINING TEAM
Expert instructors, teachers and welfare staff on hand

18-21 ANY QUESTIONS?
Everything you need to know about college life

22 PARENTS AND GUARDIANS
Rest assured your child will be in safe hands

23 HOW TO APPLY
Your next move towards a place at an Army college



You might spend time doing your job overseas assisting the Army's operational efforts



You will develop in ways that will make you, and your parents, proud

WHAT CAN JOINING THE ARMY DO FOR ME?

"Joining the Army has made me much more confident and given me lots of useful skills and my parents are very proud. Marching off the parade square after six months at Winchester, with my mum crying in the crowd, was one of the best moments ever. I really feel that I've done something important with my life."

Private Lloyd McCarthy, 25, Adjutant General's Corps, ATFC Winchester

WHY THE ARMY?

ON COMPLETING YOUR COURSE, YOU'LL BECOME A SOLDIER IN THE BRITISH ARMY – ONE OF THE MOST VARIED, EXCITING AND SECURE JOBS THERE IS

There are many good reasons why 14,000 people join the British Army every year. It is renowned throughout the world for its humanitarian and peace-keeping work, as well as its skill in combat. One of the largest employers in the UK, it is made up of men and women from all walks of life.

There is a huge variety of people, jobs and skills in the Army. Chef, engineer, medic, infantryman and tank driver are just a few of well over a 140 different jobs available.

You might already be certain you want to join the Army and which job you want to do. Or this might be the first time you've considered joining the Army. Whatever your interests and skills, there will be a role to suit you.

If you earn a place at one of the colleges you will be joining the Army when your training course begins.

At college you will learn the military, leadership and vocational skills you need to be a soldier, as well as personal skills you'll have for life.

A CHALLENGING ROLE

After college you will join your chosen Army regiment and begin the next part of your training (see page 10). There you will learn how to do your Army job at home and on operations. Serving on operations is an important part of life in the Army and there's a good chance you will deploy at some point in your Army career. If so you'll get additional specialist training before you go to prepare you. Life on operations is demanding, but it's where everything you've learned in the Army comes together. You work alongside your mates in close-knit teams, with the full support of all the different Army units behind you.

REAP THE REWARDS

As well as the challenge, learning and satisfaction your job will bring you, there are a host of other benefits to an Army job. Your pay goes up each year and with every promotion. And there are other financial benefits such as free health care, a pension, very low living costs and 38 days' holiday every year.

Travel, sport and adventurous training – such as mountaineering, skiing and sub aqua – are also a big part of Army life, keeping soldiers active and challenged.

So the Army gives you much more than a pair of boots and a uniform. The list of benefits just goes on and on – from the work you do to the skills you learn, and to the friends you make.

And of course, there's the added bonus of being paid while you train, earning over £260 a week gross.

Operations give you the chance to test your skills in a different environment



WHAT THE ARMY OFFERS

- Good pay and regular pay rises
- Skills and qualifications which are transferable to civilian life
- The chance to serve your country, at home and abroad
- 38 days' holiday a year
- Over 50 different sports, with first-rate facilities and coaching
- Exciting overseas expeditions and adventurous training trips
- The chance to continue and further your education

THE ARMY'S CORE VALUES

- COURAGE** - Be brave enough to do the right thing
- DISCIPLINE** - Set a good example and follow lawful orders
- RESPECT FOR OTHERS** – Treat people as you would like to be treated
- INTEGRITY** - Be honest with yourself and others
- LOYALTY** - Do your best for your team mates and your commander
- SELFLESS COMMITMENT** - Put your team and mates before yourself

Professional fitness instructors will gradually build your strength and stamina – they'll push you, not punish you



I REALLY ENJOY THE PHYSICAL TRAINING. IT CAN BE HARD SOMETIMES BUT YOU FEEL GREAT AFTERWARDS

Soldier under training Joe Hoult, 17

TRAINING, LEARNING AND SKILLS FOR LIFE

THE COLLEGES' TRAINING COURSES WILL GET YOU FIT AND TURN YOU INTO A SOLDIER, AS WELL AS GIVING YOU QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS FOR LIFE

The college courses offer a mixture of learning Army skills, gaining qualifications and developing as a person.

Soldiers under training for a combat-related job will do the 50-week course at Harrogate, focussing on their military skills. The course at Winchester is 23 weeks, for those going into a more technical role who need longer trade training after college (see page 10).

The training at both colleges is divided into three key areas:

- military training
- personal and leadership development
- literacy and numeracy skills

At the end of your course you will graduate (or 'Pass Out') as a trained soldier in a special ceremony on the parade square in front of family and friends.

MILITARY TRAINING

You'll spend most of the course covering all the basic skills every soldier needs, such as weapon handling, fieldcraft, camouflage, survival, map reading and first aid.

You'll be trained to handle and shoot the SA80 rifle, learn tactics and take part in training exercises.

Drill on the parade square will teach you to march and parade in a unit, gaining a sense of pride in



Practical military training is at the core of your programme

your appearance and conduct.

You'll also learn to be a punctual and organised person.

PERSONAL AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The course aims to make you an asset to the Army. You will be taught to respect the Army's Core Values (see page 5) and will start to plan your own development. You will become a valuable team member and leader.

Your confidence, determination and resilience will be built up through outdoor pursuits such as rock climbing, caving, hill walking and kayaking, along with military exercises and outdoor expeditions.

This training is challenging but for many is the most enjoyable part of the course. By the end of it you'll be comfortable working in a team, under pressure and sometimes taking the lead. You'll also gain great practical and people skills that will be with you for life.

APPRENTICESHIPS

Almost all soldiers are enrolled on an apprenticeship scheme at some point during training. An apprenticeship is a structured programme that takes you through all the skills you need to do a particular job well, and allows you to pick up all kinds of nationally recognised qualifications such as NVQs on the way. Your apprenticeship will help set you up for your Army job, and will also be widely respected in the civilian world if you ever decide to look for a job outside the Army.

- All soldiers under training at Harrogate will gain an apprenticeship, as long as they reach the required skills level.
- Almost all of those training at Winchester will do an apprenticeship during Phase 2 training (see page 10) and, depending on the apprenticeship requirements and individual progress, this may continue when they join their unit.
- Whether you complete an apprenticeship during your college course or not, you'll have the chance to get NVQs and other qualifications.

CAREER TRAINING

The Army recognises that education is important for everyone. The classroom lessons at the Army colleges help to prepare you for your future, both in the Army and beyond, if you decide to leave.

Whatever educational level you are at, you'll have an individual learning plan tailored to you and will come out of the course with qualifications, such as NVQs, that are recognised outside the Army, and will serve you well if you ever decide to enter the civilian job market.

You might even have the chance to do an apprenticeship (see page 7).

And bear in mind that you will be able to keep on learning and picking up all kinds of qualifications right through your Army career.

SPORTS AND ADVENTURE

An Army life is an active and healthy one. Sport is a great way of keeping fit, as well improving teamwork, so it is a big part of college and Army life. The two colleges have some of the finest sports facilities in the British Army (see page 12) and you will always be encouraged to make good use of them.

There are also lots of adventurous activities to try, such as kayaking, mountain biking and rock climbing.

TIME OFF

You'll get plenty of holiday, or 'leave', during your course. Soldiers under training at Harrogate get around eight weeks off during their 50-week course, those at Winchester get three weeks. You're free to go home when you have leave.

The variety of sporting activities is huge, from kick-about to kayaking



Sports matches are played between training platoons



You'll continue your learning and pick up valuable qualifications in the classroom

DOES THE TRAINING BUILD UP GRADUALLY?

"Training is progressive. We don't ask junior soldiers to do a six-mile run on the first day, for example. Rifle training starts in the classroom too, we teach the basics before we take soldiers under training out on to the firing ranges. We instructors are here to help people get through their training, not to weed them out. We want them to succeed."

Corporal Marius McGarr, Instructor

FURTHER TRAINING

YOUR COLLEGE COURSE IS JUST THE START OF YOUR ARMY TRAINING – WHEN YOU’VE PASSED OUT YOU’LL PROGRESS TO THE NEXT PHASE

The two colleges have courses of different lengths. This is because of the training that comes after college, which is known as Phase 2 training.

Your college course gives you an all-round grounding in Army skills and life, whereas Phase 2 training is specific to the job you will have in the Army. So if you are going to be an Army chef, it will teach you all the skills of a chef.

Training differs in length depending on the job you are going to do. Engineering jobs, for example, require long periods of Phase 2 training, while Infantrymen have a shorter training course.

If your Phase 2 course is long then you will go to Winchester and do the short 23-week college course. If you have a short Phase 2 then you will take the long 50-week college course at Harrogate.

This balances out the training programme so that by the time the Army college course and your trade training have been completed, all soldiers are fully equipped to succeed and most of them will have completed an Army apprenticeship (see page 7).

This full training process – your Army college course followed by Phase 2 training – takes about a year-and-a-half in total.



Joining the Infantry is one of many career options

CHOOSING YOUR ARMY ROLE

Selecting which Army job you’d like to be considered for is quite a big decision. There are over 140 to choose from and you will need to consider what skills you already have, what you think you’d be good at, what you’d enjoy and which part of the Army you’d like to be in (see page 13). There is plenty of time to think about the options and choose, though – at the moment you don’t need to make any decisions.

An Army Careers Adviser (ACA) will be able to help you make this decision. ACAs are experienced, friendly and knowledgeable soldiers specially trained to help people join the Army. They can tell you all about the different career options and what might suit you. You can talk to an ACA at your local Army Careers Information Office or on the phone.

You can find out about the Army jobs available and find your local Army Careers Information Office, at army.mod.uk/inyourarea

FUTURE PROSPECTS

Attending an Army college and going into the Army will really set your working life on a positive path. The Army is one of the few employers able to offer you a guaranteed job. Those who pass out of Army colleges tend to do well in the Army and are likely to move up the ranks fairly quickly in comparison to most, and each promotion brings a pay rise.

And when the time comes to rejoin the civilian world – at the end of a lifetime career or before that if you decide to leave – you’ll

II YOU GET LEADERSHIP TRAINING THAT WILL SERVE YOU WELL IN ANY CIVILIAN PLACE OF WORK II

be well prepared for life outside the Army. You might have mastered a highly valuable trade such as engineering or mechanics. Because the Army encourages soldiers to continue learning throughout their career, you can pick up all kinds of qualifications, from NVQs right up to degree level, while serving. You will also get leadership training and develop valuable decision-making skills as well as self-confidence that will serve you well in any civilian place of work.

So there are all kinds of benefits, financial and otherwise, that come with an Army career. For more information visit army.mod.uk/jobs



Once you’ve learned a trade it will be useful for the rest of your life

THE ARMY COLLEGES

FIRST-CLASS TRAINING, LEARNING AND SPORTS FACILITIES – RIGHT ON YOUR DOORSTEP

The Army's two junior entry colleges have outstanding facilities. And unlike many other colleges they have everything on site so junior soldiers are able to live, train, study and relax all at their college location.

The college you attend will depend on which part of the Army you will be joining (see panel right). Those learning trades with the Royal Armoured Corps, Royal Artillery, Infantry, and some Royal Logistic Corps trades will go to the Army

Foundation College Harrogate. All other soldiers under training attend the Army Technical Foundation College Winchester. You can find more information on the different corps and over 140 Army roles available at army.mod.uk/jobs

Whichever college you go to you'll be starting your career in one of the Army's best establishments, where the excellence of your training will be matched by the quality of your surroundings. Take a look at what the colleges have to offer...



ARMY FOUNDATION COLLEGE HARROGATE

LOCATION Situated just outside the historic spa town of Harrogate in North Yorkshire, north-east England

COURSE LENGTH 50 weeks (including eight weeks' leave)

INTAKES January and September

JUNIOR SOLDIERS Approx 1300

STAFF Approx 300

CORPS TRAINED Infantry, Royal Armoured Corps, Royal Artillery, some Royal Logistic Corps roles
army.mod.uk/harrogate



ARMY TECHNICAL FOUNDATION COLLEGE WINCHESTER

LOCATION Two miles outside the cathedral town of Winchester, Hampshire, south-east England

COURSE LENGTH 23 weeks (including three weeks' leave)

INTAKES March, April, May, September, October and November

JUNIOR SOLDIERS Approx 1280

STAFF Approx 200

CORPS TRAINED Royal Engineers, Royal Signals, Army Air Corps, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Adjutant General's Corps, Corps of Army Music and some Royal Logistic Corps roles
army.mod.uk/winchester



The colleges are modern and well-equipped

FIRST-RATE FACILITIES

Here are just some of the amenities at your disposal

■ ACCOMMODATION AND PERSONAL SPACE

Comfortable, shared rooms in single-sex blocks. Each junior soldier has his or her own private space

■ EXTENSIVE OUTDOOR TRAINING GROUNDS

■ OBSTACLE COURSE

■ GYM AND SPORTS HALL

Among the Army's best. There are free weights, exercise machines, indoor pitches, and climbing walls

■ SPORTS PITCHES

■ TENNIS COURTS

■ SQUASH COURTS

■ SWIMMING POOL

■ EDUCATION CENTRE

State-of-the-art lecture halls and classrooms

■ MEDICAL AND DENTAL CENTRE

Fully trained doctors, nurses and dentists are available 24/7

■ CHAPEL

■ WELFARE OFFICES

Staffed by people you can talk to in confidence about any problems you may be having

■ INTERNET ACCESS

■ GAMES ROOMS

■ LAUNDERETTE

■ SHOP

Sells newspapers, magazines, books, DVDs, food and snacks

■ PARADE SQUARE

Where you will proudly Pass Out at the end of your course

■ CANTEEN

The colleges serve three meals a day and cater for special diets



WHICH PART OF THE ARMY IS FOR YOU?

The Army is divided into large groupings called 'corps'. Each corps has its own area of expertise and responsibility.

The corps you join will depend on which job you go on to do in the Army.

Though the Army is divided into different corps, the reality is that they mix and work together.

For example, soldiers from all the corps will join together to form a 'battle group' when they are on operations overseas. That way all the different areas of skill are combined into one large unit.

Ultimately, the Army is one big team.

THE MAJOR CORPS AND WHAT THEY DO:

ROYAL ARMoured CORPS

Drive tanks and other armoured vehicles in battle
Sample jobs: Tank Crewman, Mounted Trooper

get what is needed – fuel, food, ammo etc. – to where it is needed
Sample jobs: Driver, Chef, Supplier

ARMY AIR CORPS

The Army's airborne wing, which flies Apache and Lynx helicopters
Sample job: Groundcrew

INTELLIGENCE CORPS

Responsible for understanding and outwitting the enemy – often in secret
Sample jobs: Intelligence Operator, Linguist

ROYAL ARTILLERY

The firepower specialists, in charge of the Army's big guns and rocket systems
Sample jobs: AS90 Gunner, Radar Operator

INFANTRY

The Army's 'boots on the ground'. Responsible for winning battles
Sample jobs: Mortarman, Anti-tank Missile Operator

ROYAL SIGNALS

The technical experts who take care of electronics, communications and IT
Sample jobs: Electrician, Electronic Warfare Systems Operator

ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES

Keeping the Army's men and animals fighting fit
Sample jobs: Combat Medical Technician, Pharmacy Technician

ROYAL ENGINEERS

A corps of tradesmen who build and maintain structures, from buildings to bridges
Sample jobs: Carpenter and Joiner, Armoured Engineer

CORPS OF ARMY MUSIC

Provides the Army's musicians, who play at ceremonial occasions
Sample jobs: Musician

ROYAL ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Craftsmen who ensure all vehicles and equipment are in good working order
Sample jobs: Vehicle Mechanic, Metalsmith

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S CORPS

The Army's organisers and administrators, running things behind the scenes
Sample jobs: Combat HR Specialist, Military Police

ROYAL LOGISTIC CORPS

The Army's suppliers. They

For more information on how the Army is organised visit army.mod.uk/structure

LIFE AT THE COLLEGES

YOU CAN FIND EVERYTHING YOU NEED ON SITE, MAKING LIFE EASIER THROUGHOUT YOUR COURSE

Army colleges are proud to train some of the Army's most promising young soldiers. That's why they provide them with excellent buildings, equipment and facilities.

Everything you will need – accommodation, classrooms, leisure facilities, gym, a shop – can be found on site.

You will have some time to rest in the evenings and at weekends when you are not training. You can relax with friends at the cinema club, internet café or games room.

And after an initial period when you have to stay on camp, you are free to travel into the nearby towns at weekends.

There are also half terms and holidays when you can go home.

Physical fitness is important, so on top of the training you'll do in your working week, you're also free to make use of the sports facilities in your spare time. Highly qualified coaches will improve your sporting skills, and there will be matches organised against outside teams and other platoons.

The colleges have two intakes, or new sets of soldiers under training, each year. You will work alongside other young men and women aged 16 to 17 that make up your intake. Best of all, every day you're at college you will be getting paid for it.



It's not all work – you'll make good friends and have a lot of fun too



Pool, TV, video games, sport, the cinema, the local towns – there are lots of ways to fill your free time

ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

The courses are full-time and residential, so you will live and sleep at your college. You'll share a room with other people from your training group, with a reasonable amount of individual privacy. Female soldiers under training have separate quarters. The college caters for vegetarians and for Muslims who require halal meat.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Staff will treat you as an adult learner. You'll be living and training with like-minded young people, often working together to solve problems. Much of the education is vocational – it will help you to do your job. You'll also pick up good qualifications that will help you in the Army and beyond. You just need to be enthusiastic and positive.

THE FACILITIES HERE ARE CRACKING. I GET THREE COOKED MEALS A DAY AND MY ROOM'S VERY COMFORTABLE. I'M INTO SPORTS AND FITNESS, AND THE GYM'S THE BEST EVER.

Junior Soldier Adam Morgan, 16

ADVENTURE – ARMY STYLE

Going on an expedition, which could be something like skiing, will be part of your college course. In the Army you get all kinds of special opportunities not available to most people. That could mean going abroad to try an extreme sport at heavily discounted prices.



EXPERTISE AND SUPPORT

THE COLLEGES ARE PROUD OF THE QUALITY OF TRAINING AND SUPPORT THEY ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE – ALL THANKS TO THEIR EXPERT STAFF

Every member of college staff is an expert in their field, whether that's teaching military studies, leading expeditions or simply chatting to students and listening to their issues.

The colleges take the education and welfare of their soldiers under training very seriously. Staff at the colleges have all of the training and experience they need to provide the very best instruction and care, ensuring that you develop to your full potential.

MILITARY INSTRUCTORS

College training staff are among the Army's best people. They come from all parts of the force and bring years of Army experience with them.

Working with them, you will learn

everything you need to know to become a soldier in the British Army.

CIVILIAN INSTRUCTORS

As well as Army instructors there are fully qualified staff from outside the Army who deliver lessons in the classroom. They are your teachers and will help you to develop your language and number skills.

PADRES

Padres are the Army's vicars, although they are not all Christian. Whatever your religious beliefs, or even if you don't have any, you can talk to a padre about any concerns.

MEDICAL STAFF

The colleges have on-site medical centres with teams of fully trained

doctors and nurses. They also have well equipped physiotherapy and dental departments. Medical cover is provided 24 hours a day.

If you should get injured during training or playing sport, the college provides an excellent system of rehabilitation, with physiotherapists on hand to get those muscles and joints moving. Health and safety is taken very seriously and all training activities are constantly monitored.

Instructors at the colleges are among the Army's best soldiers



HOW WE COMPARE

An OFSTED report 2009 stated:

- Learners develop particularly good interpersonal, team and social skills. Their communication skills, self-esteem and self-confidence improve during training
- The arrangements for recruits' welfare and duty of care remain a strength. The chain of command has a thorough awareness of each recruit in training. Recruits interviewed comment that training teams and welfare staff respond very well to their welfare and general needs
- Very good development of learners' skills

"THE ARMY PROVIDE EXCELLENT RESOURCES WHICH GIVE LEARNERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRACTICE SKILLS IN TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS IN OPERATIONS" OFSTED 2009



Civilian teachers will help you in the classroom

"WE TAKE PRIDE IN SOLDIERS UNDER TRAINING. WE SPEND A LOT OF TIME MENTORING AND TUTORING THEM. IT'S VERY SATISFYING TO SEE THEM DEVELOPING INTO THE PERSON THEY'RE GOING TO BE."

Platoon Sergeant Keith Sugrie, Instructor

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

JOINING THE ARMY IS A BIG DECISION SO IT'S NATURAL THAT YOU WILL HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS. HERE ARE SOME OF THE ANSWERS...

AM I ELIGIBLE TO GO TO AN ARMY COLLEGE?

The colleges are open to young men and women aged between 16 years and 17 years and one month old (at the time of starting the course). You will have to take a computer-based test to assess your suitability for the course, and pass some basic physical and medical tests (see page 23). You need to live a drug-free lifestyle. Because you are under 18 you need your parent or guardian's consent to join. If you have a police record, you must declare it.

DOES IT MATTER WHICH COLLEGE I GO TO?

The college you join depends on which Army job you will be training to do. If your role is very technical you will probably go to Army Technical Foundation College Winchester. If your job is focussed on military skills you will go to Army Foundation College Harrogate.

HOW DO I CHOOSE WHICH JOB TO DO?

Think about what you want to do, your skills, your ambitions and the jobs available to you based on the results of your preliminary tests. You don't need to decide now – an Army Careers Adviser will be able to help you go through your options and make the right decision. You can find more information on all the jobs available on army.mod.uk/jobs

WHY IS THE HARROGATE COURSE LONGER THAN THE WINCHESTER ONE?

That's down to the next stage of Army training, Phase 2 (see page 10).

If you are doing a long Phase 2 course you will do the shorter college course at Winchester, if you are doing a short Phase 2 course you will do the longer college course at Harrogate. This balances your overall recruit training out – your college course and your Phase 2 are two elements of training that combine to make you the complete soldier.

WE HAVE SPARE TIME IN THE EVENINGS AND AT WEEKENDS. SOMETIMES WE'RE ALLOWED TO GO OFF SITE, OR GO HOME TO VISIT OUR FAMILIES.

Soldier under training Gemma Bull, 17

WILL I MISS OUT IF I DO THE SHORTER COLLEGE COURSE?

No. If you're on the short course it means your future job needs more technical training. Those on the long course will go into combat orientated roles that need more military training (see page 10 for more information).

WILL IT BE JUST LIKE GOING TO A NORMAL COLLEGE?

Definitely not! Education Army-style means you're not confined to the classroom from 9 to 5, 5 days a week. The courses are very active and you'll spend a lot of time outside learning practical skills, playing sport and doing adventurous training.

HOW TOUGH ARE THE COURSES?

The courses are challenging. But they are by no means too hard to

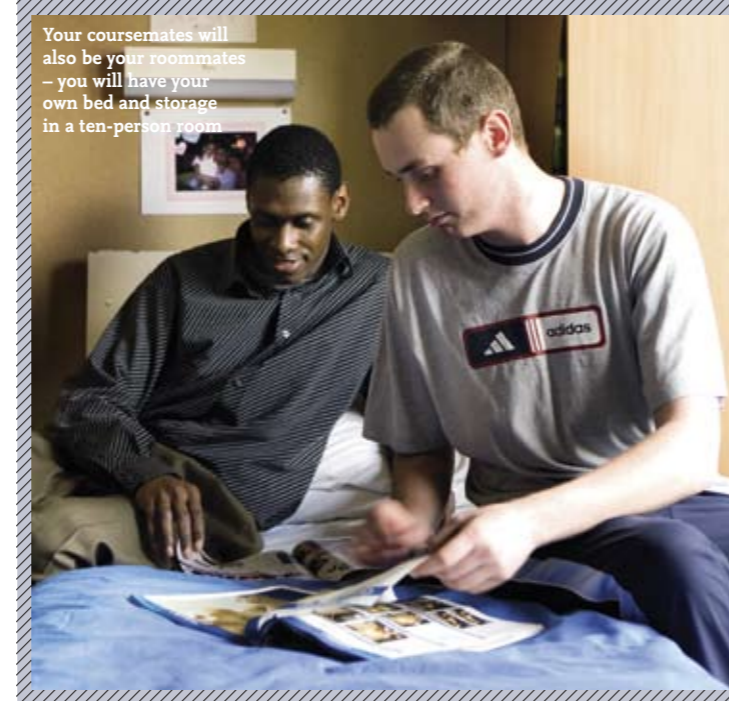
get through. We want you to succeed, which is why we have a staff-to-student ratio of around 1:10. The staff are always there to help you. Some of your instructors will be former Army college students, so they'll know what the course is like, and will tell you that by joining one of the colleges, you get great training, pay and prospects.

WILL I LIKE IT?

Finding your feet when you don't know anyone isn't easy, especially if you're living away from home for the first time. But you'll have tons of support and lots of other people will be feeling exactly the same. You will be amazed how quickly you settle in and make new friends. If you're sure you want to join the Army, we're sure you'll enjoy the course.



The colleges are for young men and women aged 16 to 17 years



Your coursemates will also be your roommates – you will have your own bed and storage in a ten-person room

WHERE WILL I LIVE AND WHAT WILL IT BE LIKE?

- You will live in Army barrack accommodation. This isn't like living at home and you'll have to learn to live in close quarters with other people. But you will find it modern, comfortable and friendly.
- You will share accommodation with the other members of your training group, so you'll have your own personal space, storage and of course a bed within a shared room. Although it is shared, there is a reasonable amount of privacy.
- All the facilities you will use are modern and well-equipped.
- Female soldiers under training have separate accommodation.
- There is a launderette on-site.

HOW WILL MY TIME AT COLLEGE HELP ME IN THE FUTURE?

The Army colleges are there to provide you with skills that will help you achieve more in your future Army career. You will receive more training and have greater opportunities for adventure and for developing your leadership skills than many other soldiers. On completion of your course, you have the opportunity to build a fulfilling career with the Army.

HOW MUCH WILL I GET PAID?

During the course you'll be paid over £260 a week, which works out as a salary of more than £13,600.

WILL I GET TIME OF MY OWN?

We keep you busy but we also want you to be able to unwind. Apart

from when you have duties or activities, your evenings are your own. After taking leave in week seven, at weekends you are free to go off camp into town, providing you're not expected in training that day.

WHAT HOLIDAYS WILL I GET?

On the Harrogate course you will get around eight weeks' holiday. At Winchester you will get three weeks. You'll still receive pay while you're on holiday. When you leave college to join your unit you'll get 38 days of leave a year.

WHERE AND WHAT WILL I EAT?

The restaurants at both colleges serve three meals a day. The food is tasty and nutritious with balanced, healthy meals and generous portions to ensure your body

Fit and healthy: sport, adventure training and outdoor activities will make up a large part of your course

WILL I GET THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY MUCH SPORT?

Yes. Sport is a big part of Army life, so at the Army colleges you'll spend a lot of time doing it.

The facilities at both colleges are first class. They have all the pitches, courts, tracks and equipment you could ever need, as well as a gym to keep you in shape. Whatever your sport you'll be able to continue it at college, as well as trying new ones.

It's just the same once you have completed the course and joined the Army – soldiers are encouraged to play as much sport as they can. There are lots of different sports associations in the Army: angling, archery, football, hockey, karate, the list goes on and on.

And if you are an exceptional sportsperson the Army will support you in your field.

► has enough fuel to get you through each day. Special diets such as vegetarian, halal and kosher are all catered for. You can also buy snacks from the shop.

CAN I PRACTISE MY RELIGION?

Yes, practising faith is encouraged and, training permitting, religious holidays may be observed. There are churches and, increasingly, non-Christian places of worship on camp. Sikhs can wear the five Ks and male Sikhs can wear a turban (though this isn't always possible with specialist headgear) and a short beard. Muslim women may wear trousers instead of a skirt, and tracksuit trousers for PT.

CAN MY PARENTS OR GUARDIANS VISIT ME WHILE I'M AT COLLEGE?

Yes. Parents and guardians are invited to look around the college and meet the staff when they drop you off on your first day. After that there is a special parents' day when they can visit, as well as the cap-badging ceremony and the Passing Out ceremonies, which they are invited to attend.

CAN I USE MY MOBILE?

Yes, during your free time. There are also payphones and internet access on site so you can easily contact your family.

WHEN DOES THE COURSE START?

There are two intakes at Harrogate each year, one in January and one in September. There are six intakes at Winchester, in March, April, May, September, October and November. The application process usually takes about three months, and you'll then be put into the next available intake.

HOW FIT DO I NEED TO BE?

You don't need to be Superman or Wonder Woman but you do need to be in decent physical condition when you arrive. After that, skilled professionals will build your fitness and strength progressively.

WHAT AM I SIGNING UP FOR?

If you do decide to go ahead and apply for a place at an Army college,



When you finish at college you'll go on to do Phase 2 training and learn your Army trade

IT'S SATISFYING TO KNOW JUNIOR SOLDIERS WILL GO ON TO HAVE FANTASTIC CAREERS WITH OPPORTUNITIES AND REWARDS

Major Carolyn Silva, Instructor

there's no final commitment to join the Army yet. However, you should be sure an Army job is for you before you agree to join a college. After you graduate you have to serve at least four years in the Army from your 18th birthday.

WHAT IF IT'S NOT FOR ME?

If you decide during the course that the Army is not what you want to do after all, then you have the right to leave. This is an option of last resort,

however, and can only be done after consulting the training staff, who will do everything they can to help you enjoy and pass the course.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I FINISH COLLEGE?

At the end of your course you will parade alongside your colleagues in a big ceremony in front of a crowd of friends and family. This is called Passing Out. After this proud day you'll have a bit of time off. Then you'll go on to the next phase of Army training where you will learn your Army trade.

I'M INTERESTED IN APPLYING. WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

Your next step is to talk to an Army Careers Adviser and take it from there. See page 23 to find out how. You don't have to make a commitment to the Army straight away, so why not get in touch and see if it could be for you.



THE PARENTS' AND GUARDIANS' PAGE

YOUR CHILD WILL BE LOOKED AFTER AT AN ARMY COLLEGE – AND COME HOME MUCH IMPROVED

Your child will mature at college, developing confidence, discipline and a positive attitude

Seeing your son or daughter leave home for the first time is a daunting prospect. But rest assured, Army colleges have the staff and welfare systems to make sure youngsters enjoy their time there.

This will probably be the first time your child has lived away from home, so your support is important to ensure they get the most out of their college course. Highly trained instructors are on hand, providing guidance and encouragement while delivering the government's initiative for 14-19 year olds through the provision of work-based learning and apprenticeships (see page 7).

WELFARE FIRST

All members of college staff have a keen interest in the welfare of soldiers under training. After all,

the greatest asset the Army has is its soldiers, so it always looks after them well. Your daughter or son represents the next generation.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Parents and guardians get ample opportunity to visit, starting with an invite to accompany their child on their first day. You may also attend both the cap-badging parade at week six and the Passing Out parade at the end of the course.

Each training company also holds a day about halfway through the course where parents and guardians can see their child in action. Soldiers under training are free to spend time at home when they have leave, and are encouraged to phone home regularly. You can also contact your child's training team at any time.

TESTIMONIALS

People are often amazed at the change they see in their children after Army college

"The most noticeable things about my daughter have to be her sense of purpose and hunger to achieve, and her eagerness to learn and participate in everything. Our little girl has been changed into a well-mannered and ambitious young lady!"

"Before my son entered Harrogate, he only seemed to think of himself. Now he thinks of everyone around him first. He is very polite and always wanting to help. I would always do his washing and fuss over him. Now he has come home a man and can look after himself."

"My daughter seems to have grown up overnight. She now has a sense of purpose, takes pride in herself and is more open and honest. It is also a pleasure to have a mature conversation with her without the ever-present twang of attitude."

HOW DO I APPLY?

IF YOU WANT TO APPLY FOR A PLACE AT AN ARMY COLLEGE THEN HERE'S WHAT TO DO. YOU DON'T HAVE TO COMMIT TO ANYTHING AT THIS STAGE

So you like what you have seen? Fantastic. There are a number of steps to take from here in order to gain a place at an Army college. You'll be helped by specialist advisers throughout.

STEP 1: CONTACT AN ARMY CAREERS ADVISER

Telephone or call in at your local Army Careers Information Office. Your nearest one will be listed in the phone book under Army, or you can find all the careers offices in your region listed at army.mod.uk/jobs/inyourarea. You don't need an appointment.

There you can speak to an Army Careers Adviser about your plans. They will be friendly, knowledgeable and will be able to help decide what's best for you.

You're under no pressure to make any commitment here, but if you do decide you want to go forward with your application your Army Careers Adviser will be able to set the ball rolling.

STEP 2: INITIAL TESTS

You will take some basic assessments to see which areas of the Army you are best suited to. These will take place at your Army Careers Information Office and will include an interview. Your Army Careers Adviser will then talk you through your job options, taking into account the roles you're interested in and your test results.

STEP 3: FINAL TESTS

Next, you will attend a two-day course at an Army Development and Selection Centre (ADSC), where you will undergo

more thorough fitness, health and team tests to determine your suitability for an Army career. Following these tests you will find out whether you have been selected to attend an Army college.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN APPLYING, YOUR NEXT STEP IS TO CONTACT AN ARMY CAREERS INFORMATION OFFICE

STEP 4: CONGRATULATIONS!

If selected, you will now be offered a place at one of the colleges. Which one depends on the Army job you have chosen. You will be told all you need to know in order to prepare yourself for the start of your training. Good luck!

NO COMMITMENT YET

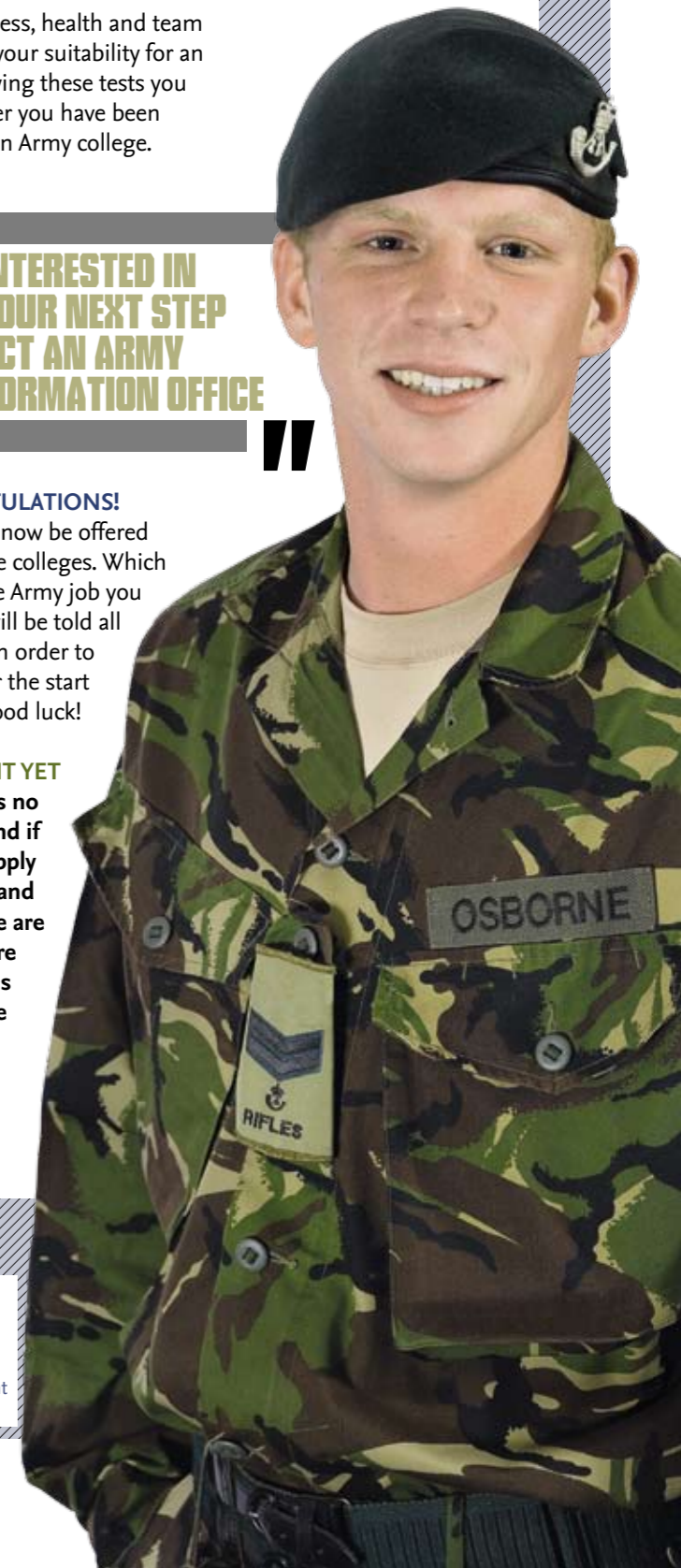
Remember, there is no commitment yet and if you do decide to apply for a college place and join the Army, there are opportunities before your training begins to rethink. We hope you won't, but the decision is yours.

Find out more about the Army at army.mod.uk

A DIVERSE, INCLUSIVE ARMY

The Army welcomes applications from eligible candidates no matter what their sex, marital status, race, ethnic origin or religious belief. No account is taken of sexuality or background when assessing candidates. The Army

is committed to being an equal opportunities employer and has a strict code covering discrimination and harassment. For reasons of operational effectiveness, some front line units are open to men only.





ARMY COLLEGES

FOR SCHOOL-LEAVERS AGED 16 TO 17



**ARMY FOUNDATION
COLLEGE HARROGATE**
army.mod.uk/harrogate

**ARMY TECHNICAL
FOUNDATION
COLLEGE WINCHESTER**
army.mod.uk/winchester



ARMY
BE THE BEST
REGULAR & TERRITORIAL

army.mod.uk/jobs
0845 600 8080
Text ARMY to 61110

The British Army wholeheartedly supports the principle of equality of opportunity in employment. We are opposed to all forms of unlawful discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, ethnic background, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, religious belief or age. We are committed, wherever practicable, to recruiting and maintaining a workforce which broadly reflects the UK population we serve. We have a strict code of conduct that ensures zero tolerance of bullying, harassment, discrimination and victimisation on any grounds.

