

# Adult Volunteer Roles



## Civilian Instructor (ATC)

Civilian Instructors provide wide and varied experience within the Air Cadet Organisation, with or without specialist experience. They are an integral part of the organisation and provide the non-uniformed instructor base across squadrons and detached flights, but are just as essential as the uniformed volunteers. For many being a CI is the starting block for going into uniform, others prefer the role as they may not have as much time to give as uniformed staff, but all your time is valuable and welcome to the organisation. With many of the same opportunities on offer, this is an excellent way to get a grounding in the organisation and help support the youth of today.

### Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be over 20 years of age
- Must have resided in the United Kingdom for a minimum of 5 years
- Pass DBS Police vetting Checks
- Have a minimum of 12 hours per month to spare

### Selection and Training:

The only mandatory training required for CI's is the BASIC Adult induction course, a 1 day familiarisation course which all adult volunteers and cadets over the age of 18 are required to attend. Much of your training and development will happen on the job at your squadron. There are a number of specialist courses which you will be able to apply for in specialist subject areas from aviation, shooting, sports, adventure training and many others depending on your preferred area. There is no prior knowledge of the Military, the Royal Air Force or the Air Cadet Organisation required, but you must be prepared to learn the way in which we work!

### Pay and Allowances:

Civilian Instructors are not eligible for remuneration in the same way as uniformed staff in terms of paid training. We do offer re-imbursement for travel, accommodation and messing when on approved activities and home to duty allowance for your travel to your squadron on a nightly basis. We will provide T-shirts and some items of clothing also.

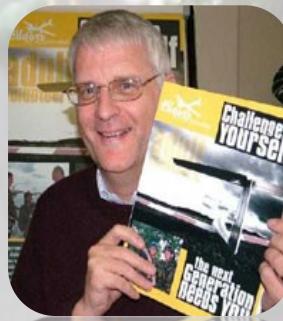
### Expectations of the Role and Development:

All our adult volunteers are required to uphold our core values and ethos at all times, striving to develop the youth of today. Whether you wish to use your time as a CI to gain a grounding for onward development and join the uniform cadre or wish to remain as CI, we will provide training for you that is both useful in the ACO and in your work or personal life. Your time is precious to the organisation as much as it is to you and we want you to get the most out of it whilst you are with us. We are constantly reviewing the way we carryout or work and developing, to take on new challenges as we look to the future. You will be a key part of helping to shape not only your squadron, but also the 60,000 person strong organisation that is the Royal Air Force Air Cadet Organisation.

# Join as a Civilian Instructor

The most common volunteer designation in Air Cadets is Civilian Instructor - it's a varied role allowing you to use your skills where they best fit. You can give as much or little time as you can, and you don't need any formal qualifications - just enthusiasm that's infectious.

Many cadets go straight into volunteer roles when they leave at 20 years old - often they feel that they can 'give back' their great experiences to a new generation of young people



## Make a Difference



Your role is vital to the success of our cadets. You'll see your dedication and effort pay-off in the achievements you inspire amongst our members. But it isn't just the cadets that benefit - you'll get involved in many squadron activities and have the same kinds of opportunities as cadets to

develop your leadership skills and gain qualifications in areas such as mountain leadership, First Aid and NVQs that may be useful to you in your career. You'll also have as much fun as the cadets do!

It doesn't stop there either. If you choose, you may apply to become an Adult SNCO or as a Commissioned Officer in the Training Branch of the RAF Volunteer Reserve. As a uniformed member of staff you can claim up to 28 days' volunteer allowance per year and work your way up through the ranks in a similar manner to the RAF.

Our volunteers say they gain a huge sense of achievement from helping young people realise their potential and develop them for their lives ahead.

Why not give it a try?



### For More Information

To find your local squadron or for more information please visit :

[www.trentwingaircadets.org.uk](http://www.trentwingaircadets.org.uk) or [www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets](http://www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets)

Or e-mail: [media.trent@aircadets.org](mailto:media.trent@aircadets.org)

Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/trentwingaircadets](https://www.facebook.com/trentwingaircadets)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Can anyone be a Volunteer?

We welcome all responsible adults (aged 20 years upwards), of any gender, from all social backgrounds, cultures and religions. You don't need to have any prior military experience, just enthusiasm and commitment.

### I have a fulltime job / home to run / children / How can I spare the time for voluntary work?

Most of our volunteers have busy lives too, and many of them work full time. Most activities take place in the evenings and at weekends, and no-one's expected to take part in everything. Many people get involved initially because their children are cadets - they start off helping out informally at events and open days. As long as you can spare a few hours a week, you'll be made very welcome.

### Do I need to be physically Fit?

We like our volunteers to be reasonably fit so they can join in the physical activities, but other qualities are equally important. We need people who can deal with paperwork and homesick cadets at camp just as much as someone who can hike across the hills with them.

### I'm Retired but would like to get involved, is there an age limit?

There is no upper age limit as a civilian instructor, although uniformed staff retire at 65. Many of our volunteers are retired or semi-retired, which gives them more time to spend with us.

### Do I need to have experience of working with Children?

No, but you do need an understanding of the needs of teenagers. So if you are a parent with children or have had any contact with the children of friends or family, you will have some idea of what's required. Obviously, if you have any direct experience, such as teaching or sports training, you will have an advantage.

### What happens if I join and find its not for me?

This kind of work doesn't suit everyone, but when you join us you will be given every opportunity to find a role that you feel happy with. We are particularly keen to ensure that you are suited to and happy with your role, as your enthusiasm can directly impact on the cadets.



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