

A young Black man with a short haircut, wearing a bright blue V-neck t-shirt, is smiling warmly and clapping his hands. He is standing in what appears to be a classroom or a meeting room. In the foreground, the back of a person's head wearing a light blue cap is visible, and another person's hand is partially seen. The background shows a white door and a window with red curtains.

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN) ON NCS



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Young people who have special educational needs can face additional barriers when taking part in NCS. As NCS is for every young person aged 15–17*, adaptations have been made to ensure there is equal access to the programme.



Benefits of NCS

NCS can benefit young people with special educational needs in a number of ways. The residential parts of the programme develop life skills, particularly beneficial for those who go on to supported living arrangements. It is also a chance to mix with young people from a wide variety of backgrounds who they may not normally get to communicate with in a safe and supportive environment. For those young people who may go on to work, it is an opportunity to learn about employers through working with our community partners. Most importantly it is a chance for young people with special educational needs to have a presence in their communities through activities and a curriculum that is designed to engage them whilst still having fun.

Financial support

Most young people will pay £35 for their space on NCS. However, we have generous financial support available with no assessment; you just have to ask.

Flexible approach

We understand that there can be several professional bodies involved with a young person and their family, such as schools and medical professionals. In order to make sure each young person is supported on NCS, we will seek advice and feedback from all relevant parties.

Point of contact

Your local NCS rep is fully trained to support young people with special educational needs throughout the application process and will have a direct number and email address. Where possible, the local rep will arrange a face to face visit with the young person to tell them about the programme.

Extra support during NCS

We offer a wide range of support during NCS to ensure everyone is able to make the most of this amazing opportunity. We assess every young person individually to find out their support needs. This can include an extra team mentor or a dedicated one to one member of staff. In the past, we have used outdoor centres that have facilities for young people with disabilities. We have also used venues that will accommodate the young person's needs**. You can discuss these options further with your local rep.

For more information on our inclusion statement, please visit the-challenge.org/inclusion or call 020 3510 5050



POWERED BY



* Please contact us for further information about our age policy and what exceptions can be made.

** In a small number of cases, this may mean that the young person's original booking will be changed to support their needs.