

# NCS Boss it programme



Inspiring Learning  
**LOUDSPEAKER**

# What is the NCS 'Boss it' programme?

The NCS 'Boss it' programme is a collaboration between the National Citizen Service NCS, Loudspeaker and Inspiring Learning and is accredited by Skills Builder (Level 3), aligned to the Skills Builder Framework. This programme is fully funded for 16-17 year olds.

This opportunity is a 5 day and 4 night adventure, including workshops and activities designed to support young people on their journeys into adulthood, using the outdoors as a vehicle for learning and personal development.

*Do you see yourself as having the potential to make it in the world of business? Then this five-day adventure away from home is the one for you. You'll take part in a business masterclass and action-packed challenges designed to get your creativity flowing, build your confidence, grow your skills and unlock your potential! If you want to be your own boss or smash your careers goals, 'Boss it' will give you the tools, know-how and inspiration you need to take control of your career and be successful.*

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# What is the NCS 'Boss it' programme?

## Programme content

- **Employability Skills workshop by Loudspeaker** - This workshop is designed to tap into the power of individuality, helping young people harness their unique experiences and transform them into compelling narratives for both personal and professional arenas.
- **Food for Thought by Kingswood** - brings teams together away from the distractions of 21st century life to focus on human needs and connections, working together towards a valuable shared goal.
- **Epic Challenge by Kingswood** - Participants will take part in a series of different challenges set across the activity centre over the course of the day. Each Challenge has been designed to help young people bond you as a team to prepare them for the future.
- **Talks and interactive sessions** from both National Industry leading companies and local specialists.
- **Careers Expo.** for students to learn more about a range of professions from a variety of fantastic UK employers

## When?

- [Kingswood Dearne Valley Doncaster](#) 18<sup>th</sup> March
- [Kingswood North Devon](#) 25<sup>th</sup> March
- [Kingswood Dukeshouse Wood Hexham](#) 11<sup>th</sup> March
- [Kingswood Grosvenor Hall Ashford](#) 4<sup>th</sup> March
- [Kingswood Colomendy North Wales](#) 26<sup>th</sup> February

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“ I have been a teacher for 14 years and organised numerous trips, and this was by far the best one yet! Both the students and I had the most enriching, exciting, and memory making week! I know they will all take so much away from this experience. I honestly cannot talk about the residential enough!”

*Teacher, Open Academy, completed the programme at Kingswood's Overstrand Hall, March 2023*

“ When you hear the children saying ‘I've done something today I thought I would never be able to do’ it really does show the power of these types of experiences. I'd unquestionably recommended a trip here for students of any age.”

*North Durham Academy, completed the NCS Skills4Life programme at Kingswood's Dukeshouse Wood, April 2022*



# Why do we need it now?



**Physical  
ill health**

2.2 Million  
youngsters are  
inactive

1 in 4 are obese



**Poor mental  
wellbeing**

18% of 7-16 year-  
olds possess  
clinical mental  
health disorder



**Disconnected**

1 in 4 children  
don't feel they  
belong at school



**Increased inequality and  
cost of living challenges**

Less affluent kids,  
less active and  
twice as likely to  
be obese

# Why do we need it now?

- 52% of 9-17 yr. olds say having good mental health is one of their main aspirations
- 57% of children from deprived areas said leaving school with a good education was one of their most important priorities
- 10% of 9-17 yr. olds don't think they'll have a better life than their parents



.....Need to put the next generation front and centre of the recovery from the pandemic by encouraging them to focus on their health and wellbeing; catch-up in schools; their family life; the communities they value and delivering on their ambition for good jobs.....

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# Why do we need it now?

- The world we live in resembles a moving target, 65% of young people will end up in jobs yet to be invented (1)
- In a fast-moving climate, employers are increasingly recognising a core of highly prized skills, known as 21st Century Skills, as essential for adapting to society's most critical problems and generating solutions in a global marketplace (2)
- Therefore, young people need to possess life and career skills such as resilience – dealing with setbacks, critical and creative thinking, collaboration with others and communication that make them employable

1. Jana, L. *Toddler Brain: Nurture the Skills Today that will Shape your Child's Tomorrow*, DeCapo Lifelong, 2017

2. Cipriano, C et al., *The State of Evidence for Social and Emotional Learning: A Contemporary Meta-Analysis of Universal School-Based SEL Interventions*, *Child Development*, 2021.



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# Why do we need it now?

- Psychosocial capability such as resilient behaviour, leadership, emotional strength and collaboration are developed through vocational 21st century learning
- Youngsters who score high on such learning at an early age, as opposed to pure academic skills training, report better adult outcomes in education, employment, and mental health (3,4).
- An impetus for youngsters to acquire Skills4Life takes on greater significance in a post-covid society where a generation of de-conditioned young people are struggling with their physical and mental well-being which impacts their prospects

3. Kautz, T, James J. Heckman, Diris, R. Ter Weel, B & Borghans D. "Fostering and measuring skills: Improving cognitive and non-cognitive skills to promote lifetime success." 2014.
4. Gray, S. Treacy J & Hall, E.T Re-engaging disengaged pupils in physical education: an appreciative inquiry perspective, *Sport, Education and Society*, 24:3, 241-255, 2019.

## Children & young people

Mental health problems often develop early



Source: The five year forward view for mental health, Mental Health Taskforce, 2016

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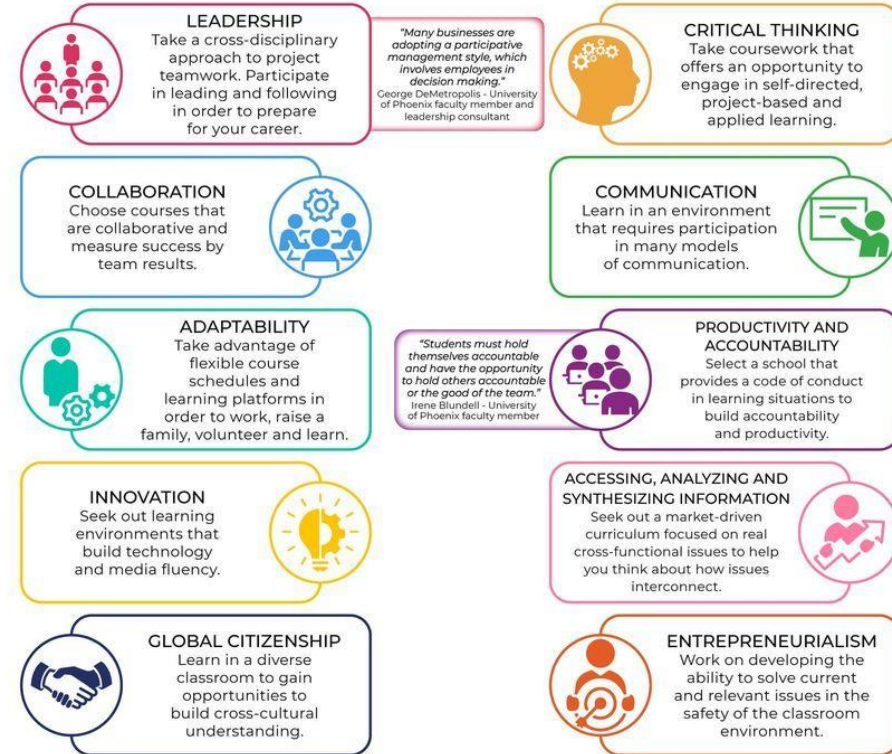


# Why do we need it now?

Schools, positive youth development programmes, and workforce development initiatives are turning to 21st Century Learning to inform programme development and guide interventions designed to improve youth outcomes

## Top 10 skills for the successful 21st-CENTURY WORKER

Data source: Mary Barry | Infographic design by @agrassoblog for educational and motivational purposes



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# Building Outcomes

- Live It is built around real-world outcomes, developed through a series of amazing challenges.
- Each element of the programme supports one (or more) of the 'Four Cs' of 21st century skills, which are essential to help modern learners succeed, both in school and the workplace.
  - **Creativity** - embracing inner strengths, looking at problems from different angles
  - **Collaboration** - working and negotiating with others, deciding on the best course of action
  - **Communication** - conveying information appropriately and in ways that can be understood
  - **Critical thinking** - asking questions and being engaged in the wider world
- These vital skill sets often make the biggest impact in building learners' confidence and resilience and set learners apart when applying for and starting their careers. Live It supercharges these skills over 5 fun-packed and memorable days.

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# LOUDSPEAKER workshop:

In a world filled with noise, our ability to speak distinctly and authentically is invaluable. This workshop is designed to tap into the power of individuality, helping young people harness their unique experiences and transform them into compelling narratives for both personal and professional arenas.

Starting with the fundamentals of effective communication, we guide participants through the art of personal branding, ensuring they know how to present themselves in a manner that's both genuine and captivating. But the heart of our workshop, we teach participants to mine their own life stories — the loves, challenges, failures and successes — and to mould them into insightful interview responses or a platform for entrepreneurial progress.

By the end of our session, participants won't just walk away with improved communication skills; they'll leave with a 30-second self-pitch that's grounded in their personal journey, ready to inspire listeners and leave a lasting impression.

Whether seeking to influence change, smash that job interview, or embark on an entrepreneurial venture, our workshop equips young people with the tools to communicate their story with clarity, passion, and purpose, for both love and money.

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# Food for Thought

- Using a range of resilience-building bushcraft skills, Food for Thought brings the young people together and challenges them to prepare and share a meal together.
- Each team will be given a budget and a selection of resources. Using these, they will:
  - Purchase food from a menu, ensuring they buy enough for each person to eat
  - Gather resources and light a fire
  - Make a shelter so that the team have somewhere to sit and eat comfortably
  - Cook the meal and serve it to each member of the team
  - Enjoy their meal together in their shelter
- Designed to challenge a broad range of skills, Food for Thought brings teams together away from the distractions of 21st century life to focus on human needs and connections, working together towards a valuable shared goal.
- The programme supports the young people to recognise their contribution to various parts of the challenge and foster a true sense of independence.
- They'll also have the opportunity to develop creativity, resilience (staying positive), leadership and teamwork skills in a truly interactive session with a tasty outcome!

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# Epic Challenge

- Participants will take part in a series of different challenges set across the activity centre over the course of the day.
- Each Challenge has been designed to help you achieve different elements of your Skill builder Framework and bond you as a team to prepare you for the future.
- By completing each challenge you will earn your team points, and compete with other teams to see who can be the most successful
- Each team will need to:
  - Plan how they intend to complete the tasks and organise the team to get the most from different peoples strengths and weaknesses
  - Implement their plan for each challenge and get points based on their implementation
  - Review themselves as a team and discuss the impact of their decisions
  - Taking place on the full day of their adventure, the Epic Challenge sees the young people work in teams to compete against each other through various tasks to win points in their bid to become champions!

At the end of the day, everyone will come together to celebrate their achievements.

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# Powered by Skills Builder

- Skills4Life is all about helping you unleash your independence, and what better way than making sure you've got some great skills to help you achieve your future plans, whatever you want to do.
- Skills Builder Partnership is a global movement of employers, educators, and impact organisations working together to ensure that one day, everyone builds the essential skills to succeed.
- The Skills Builder Universal Framework is a transformative approach to building the essential skills of individuals throughout their lives, in education and employment.
- Powered by 800 leading organisations across education and employment, the Framework has now been backed by the UK government in statutory guidance. The Partnership now has a touchpoint with 75% of UK secondary schools and colleges, as well as being adopted by a growing range of businesses.
- The Skills4Life programme has been awarded a Level 3 Impact Award.



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# Contact us

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