

## CHAPTER 4

### CADET MEMBERSHIP

#### CONTENTS

##### Para No

##### General

401	ATC Membership
402	Age limits
403	Promotion
404	Eligibility for Enrolment
405	Enrolment

##### Regulations for Cadet Service

406	Detailed Regulations
407	Transfer from Other Cadet Forces
408	Reserve Forces

##### Establishments, Classification and Ranks of Cadets

409	Establishments
410	Cadet Classification
411	Ranks

##### Record of Service

412	Record of Service (RAF Form 3822)
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##### Training

413	Cadet Training
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Paras 414 – 499 Reserved

## CHAPTER 4

### CADET MEMBERSHIP

#### GENERAL

401. **ATC Membership.** Cadets may be of any race, ethnic origin, religion, belief or gender and without reference to social background. In general they should not suffer from any disability which would prevent their participation in squadron activities. However, disabled people may join provided health and safety requirements and duty of care considerations to both cadets and adult staff are not compromised. The Air Training Corps is a uniformed youth organisation and membership of it does not imply eligibility to join the RAF or become an adult member of staff in the Corps.

402. **Age Limits.** A young person who is over 12 years of age can join the Air Cadet Organisation from the start of school year 8 in England and Wales, year S2 in Scotland and Year 9 in Northern Ireland. In addition any young person can join when they reach age 13. Cadet service will cease on the cadet's 20<sup>th</sup> birthday. However, for continued service beyond their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday cadets must have met the criteria detailed in ACP20B, Admin Instruction No 270.

403. **Promotion.** A cadet may be promoted in accordance with the regulations laid down in ACP20B, Admin Instruction No 270.

404. **Eligibility for Enrolment.** Before a cadet can be enrolled he or she must have satisfactorily completed the junior cadet programme and obtained the written consent of the person with parental responsibility. The consent form must be retained by the parent squadron. See paras 412 and 413.

405. **Enrolment.** The cadet is to be enrolled and make the "Cadet Promise" (which is contained in the RAF Form 3822 (Record of Service)) in accordance with ACP 23.

#### REGULATIONS FOR CADET SERVICE

406. **Detailed Regulations.** Detailed regulations for cadet service with the ATC, including appointment, promotion and cessation of membership, are contained in ACP20B, AI No 270.

407. **Membership of Other Cadet Forces.** ATC Cadets cannot be members of more than one cadet force at the same time, except where membership of another cadet force is a mandated part of a formal educational course. Additionally, cadets cannot be members of more than one sqn or detachment of the ATC or contingent of the CCF but may be a member of both the ATC and CCF simultaneously. A cadet may also transfer to the ATC from another cadet force with the agreement of the appropriate sqn cdr. The sqn cdr is to assess the cadet's capabilities from his age, bearing, experience and training in the other cadet force, and to judge at which stage of training it will be appropriate for the cadet to begin in the ATC. Wg HQ is to be notified of details so that the requisite classification may be authorized.

408. **Reserve Forces.** An ATC cadet cannot also serve as an adult member of a Reserve Force.

## **ESTABLISHMENTS, CLASSIFICATION AND RANKS OF CADETS**

409. **Establishments.** Cadet WO and Cadet NCO establishments are detailed in ACP 20B, AI No 101.

410. **Cadet Classification.** Wg HQs are authorised to classify cadets who pass the appropriate written examinations or online assessment in the Aviation Syllabus of Training (see ACP 20A). Cadet classifications progress from Second Class on enrolment through First Class, Leading and Senior Cadet to Master Air Cadet Staff Cadet.

411. **Ranks.** Cadet ranks are Cpl, Sgt, FS and WO. It is normal to prefix the rank with "Cdt". Additionally, at the age of 18, cadet ranks will be prefixed by the term "staff".

## **RECORD OF SERVICE**

412. **Record of Service (RAF Form 3822).** The Record of Service book held by each cadet after enrolment is to be maintained as a permanent record of service, of training carried out and of examinations passed, and is always to be carried by the cadet when on ATC duty so that it can be produced when called for by a competent authority. It is an essential document for a cadet wishing to enter certain forms of RAF service, and may also be of considerable value when seeking many kinds of other employment whether civil or with the other Armed Forces. The squadron commander is to ensure that all certificates contained therein are correctly completed and signed.

## **TRAINING**

413. **Cadet Training.** Official ATC cadet training is outlined in Chapter 5 and consists of a wide range of theoretical and practical activities aimed at meeting the objectives detailed in the Schedule to the Royal Warrant.

(Paras 414 – 499 inclusive are reserved)