

BEAVER SCOUTS · CUB SCOUTS · SCOUTS · EXPLORER SCOUTS · SCOUT NETWORK

The Scouting Adventure



Welcome . . .

Information for Parents and Guardians

BEAVER SCOUTS · CUB SCOUTS · SCOUTS · EXPLORER SCOUTS · SCOUT NETWORK



The Scottish Council The Scout Association
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What is Scouting?

Scouting is a global, educational youth movement, providing young people with Adventure, Fun and Challenge.

With almost 500,000 members, The Scout Association is the largest co-educational youth organisation in the UK. Its clear purpose is:

To help young people achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.



Where can I get more information?

The Scout Association's Information Centre can be contacted on:

0845 300 1818

It operates 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 12 noon on Saturday. Visit the website:

www.scouts.org.uk

for general and Section information or Scottish HQ at

www.scouts-scotland.org.uk

Tel 01383 419073

Developing Young People

In Scouting, we believe that young people develop most when they are 'learning by doing', when they are given responsibility, work in teams, take acceptable risks and think for themselves.

Development is guided by the Scout Programme - a continuous progression of training, activities, badges and awards for all young people aged 6 to 25.

The Programme is designed to suit 5 core age groups:

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Beaver Scouts | 6 - 8 |
| Cub Scouts | 8 - 10 ¹ / ₂ |
| Scouts | 10 ¹ / ₂ - 14 |
| Explorer Scouts | 14 - 18 |
| Scout Network | 18 - 25 |

In addition to meeting nights your child should expect opportunities for outings, indoor residential and camping experiences and other challenges suited to their age and ability.

The Programme is tailored to the interests, needs and pace of each individual, but also recognises group achievement. The highest personal achievement is that of the Queen's Scout Award.

From age 14 it is also possible to register through Scouting for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Our Responsibilities

In Scouting, our adults must operate responsibly in accordance with our policies on Child Protection, Equal Opportunities and Safety in Scouting. The Scout Association applies stringent vetting procedures, including criminal record checks, for all adult appointments. All adults must abide by our Young People First code of behaviour. Our policies and procedures are designed to keep young people safe from harm whilst they enjoy the fun and excitement of their Scouting adventure.

The Promise

All members make this simple Promise and become part of the Worldwide Scout Movement.

On My Honour

*I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to God and to the
Queen*

*To help other people
And to keep The Scout Law*

The Promise is made easier for younger children and is also available in different forms that recognise the country of origin that an individual belongs to, and their God.

Our young members are supported by almost 100,000 adult volunteers. Adult members of The Association serve as Commissioners (volunteer managers), Leaders, Section Assistants, Administrators, and in many other roles. The support of non-member adults is also welcomed, particularly from parent helpers.

An International Movement

Scouting is currently active in 218 countries and territories with a global membership of over 28 million. Two thirds of the international membership is in developing countries.

The Association promotes international opportunities including camps and projects, with the aim of strengthening links between The Scout Association in the UK and other members of The World Organisation of the Scout Movement.

Today, Scouts across the world are involved in development projects as diverse as peace education, drug abuse prevention, provision of clean water and sanitation, literacy, renewable energies and environmental conservation.



Youth Membership

Membership of The Scout Association is voluntary and open to all young people, male and female, aged 6 to 25, regardless of faith, nationality, race, culture, mental or physical ability, or other circumstances. Membership is confirmed by making a simple Promise.

When do Groups meet?

Each Scout Group section meets regularly, usually once a week during the school terms. There are often other opportunities for members to take part in events throughout the year. These might include day outings, camps and expeditions as well as a whole host of other activities.

What do Members need?

For the first few meetings your child needs, nothing at all to experience the magic of Scouting. The Scout Association produces a range of uniforms for all age groups as well as an extensive range of books to support the development of members as they progress from the Beaver Scout Section through to The Scout Network.

The Section Leader will agree a time when it is suitable to purchase a uniform and start working on the Scout Programme. She / he can advise on local outlets for uniform purchase and other materials. Additionally, Scout Shops Ltd operate a mail order service and can be contacted on Tel: 01903 755352 or www.outdoors.ltd.uk

What will it cost?

Scout Groups charge subscriptions ('subs') to cover e.g. costs of equipment and the upkeep of the meeting place. These are usually paid weekly, monthly or termly. There is also an annual membership subscription (which may be included in the subs) which is paid to headquarters for the day-to-day running of The Scout Association and includes insurance for all members.

Section Leaders will let you know the amount required locally as well as how and when to pay.

An extra charge is normally required for special events, camps, and other outings.

Child Protection

It is the policy of The Scout Association to safeguard the welfare of all members by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm. The Scout Association takes all reasonable steps to ensure that, through relevant procedures and training, members and adults taking part in Scout activities do so in a safe environment.

Parental Permission

It is taken as understood that you give your permission for your child to take part in Scout activities during the normal meeting time.

Your permission is sometimes needed for specific events, camps and activities that may take place at a different place or time. You will be asked to complete a parental consent form in such circumstances.

Medical / Dietary Information

It is essential that you inform the Section Leader if your son / daughter suffers from any medical condition or if they require any specialist medicines or treatment.

It is also necessary for information to be supplied to the Section Leader about any dietary needs of the member. Please complete the details on the attached form and update the Leaders if circumstances change.

Gift Aid

If you pay tax, the local Scout Group can use Gift Aid to claim 28p for every £1.00 you give in subscriptions or donations. All you need to do is sign the **Gift Aid declaration** that forms part of this information leaflet. All the money will be used to benefit members of the Scout Group.

Leadership

The adults who run Scout Groups are called Scouters. They are unpaid volunteers who are required to undertake training or learning appropriate to their role. Section Leaders are responsible to a Group Scout Leader, who in turn is responsible to a District Commissioner.

If you have any questions, concerns or complaints please speak to the Section Leader. If your concern is about the Leader please contact the Group Scout Leader. If not available or you are still not satisfied please refer to the District Commissioner. Contact details are overleaf.



INFORMATION IN CONFIDENCE – To be returned to Section Leader

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

To ensure that your child can take part in Scouting safely, please provide some essential information by completing and signing this form. **Return the completed form to the Section Leader.** The information you supply will be held in strictest confidence.

| | | | |
|---|-----|---------|-----------------------|
| *Beaver / Cub / Scout / Explorer Scout's Details | | | |
| Name | | | |
| Address | | | |
| Post Code | | | |
| Telephone | Day | Evening | Mobile |
| Email | | | |
| Date of Birth | | | Gender* Male / Female |

* circle as appropriate

To help Leaders prepare and provide appropriate support, please give details of any medical condition (e.g. allergies, asthma, diabetes, epilepsy), disability or special educational needs of your child:

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

Please give details of any special dietary requirements, including food allergies:

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Please give details of where you can normally be contacted if an emergency happens during a weekly meeting

| | | | |
|--|--|--------|--|
| Name (Parent / guardian) | | | |
| Address (If different from above) | | | |
| Post Code | | | |
| Telephone | | Mobile | |
| ALTERNATIVE CONTACT | | | |
| Name | | | |
| Relationship (e.g. grandparent, neighbour) | | | |
| Address | | | |
| Post Code | | | |
| Telephone | | Mobile | |

SCOUT PUBLICITY

Sometimes photos and video images of Scouts taking part in activities are submitted to local newspapers, the Group, District or Area newsletters and websites or put on display for publicity purposes. Please indicate if you are happy for images of your child to be used in this way. Yes No

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|------|
| Name of Parent / Guardian | | |
| Signature | | Date |

To enable The Scout Association to compile information about its membership and to monitor its Equal Opportunities Policy information is sometimes requested demonstrating the diversity of its membership. This information is recorded under five headings as recommended by The Commission for Racial Equality and MORI. To help your Leader provide accurate information please tick the appropriate box indicating your sons / daughters ethnic origin:

Asian Black Mixed White Other

INFORMATION IN CONFIDENCE – To be returned to Section Leader

Gift Aid

I would like the Scout Group / District / Area to treat all payments I make from 6 April 2000 in respect of member subscriptions and other donations for the Group / District / Area as Gift Aid donations.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Name of Parent / Guardian | |
| Signature | |
| Date | |

Notes 1. You must pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax we reclaim on the payments (currently 28p for every £1 you give). 2. You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the Scout Group. 3. Please notify the Scout Group if you change your name or address.

You can join the Adventure too!

If you feel you might be in a position to help out your local Group at meetings and/or events please indicate as follows:

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| I can help at meetings | Once a month <input type="checkbox"/> | Once a term <input type="checkbox"/> | More regularly <input type="checkbox"/> | Never <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I can occasionally help with | Transport <input type="checkbox"/> | Activities <input type="checkbox"/> | Camps <input type="checkbox"/> | Other |
| I can share the following skills, interests and resources | | | | |
| Full Name | | | | |
| Contact details if different from overleaf. | | | | |

The Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003

The Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003 places legal obligations on The Scout Association to check adults volunteering / offering to work in a child care role against the Disqualified from Working with Children List. In order to comply, all adults that wish to help in Scouting on a regular basis, as Warranted Leaders or Certificated Section Assistants, will be subject to an enhanced level criminal record check by way of Disclosure Scotland.

The requirement to check occasional parent helpers against the List is dependent on the roles and responsibilities they may offer to take on. The Section Leader will discuss this further with you. Whilst an enhanced level criminal record check may not be required for every parent helper, we nevertheless seek your co-operation by completing the self-declaration statement below, confirming that you are not included on any List that disqualifies you from working with children. No offer of occasional assistance can be accepted in the absence of a signed declaration.

All information is treated in strictest confidence in accordance with a defined Code of Practice.

The Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003 makes it a criminal offence for an individual to apply for, offer to do, accept or do any work in a child care position, if they are already disqualified from working with children. A person is disqualified from working with children if they are included on any of the lists detailed as follows:

- The Disqualified from Working with Children List established under Section 1 (1) of the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003
- List kept under Section 1 of the Protection of Children Act 1999
- On List 99 (Prohibition from Teaching)
- Subject to a disqualification order. (Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000)

I (full name) confirm that I am not included on any of the above lists and am not subject to any disqualifications set out in the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003.

I understand that deliberately giving false information can result in prosecution.

Signed Date

Depending on the roles and responsibilities you may agree to take on, a full criminal record check maybe required in addition to the above self-declaration. The Section Leader will explain what this entails. Information is treated in confidence in accordance with a defined Code of Practice.

Helping Scouting

The Scout Association is run by volunteers and it encourages parents and guardians to assist in the leadership team on a regular or an occasional basis. Any support that you or your family can offer Scouting is welcomed, appreciated and valued.

Help is particularly appreciated with practical skills, outdoor activities, as well as with transport, equipment and fund-raising. You may also be willing to assist occasionally with the Section meeting night, with administration and fund-raising. See information on 'You can join the adventure too'.

Support your son / daughter

The Scout Association encourages you to support your child's involvement in Scout activities. Please ensure:

- You deliver and collect your child at the appropriate times and place, as advised by the Section Leader. Always check that an adult leader has arrived before leaving your child. Please tell the Section Leader if somebody different from usual will be collecting them. Members are never left unsupervised, but if you are persistently late the Section Leader may ask you to make other safe arrangements for collection.
- Your child wears suitable clothing and footwear for activities.
- You return forms and payment on time. If you have difficulties completing forms or making payments then please speak in confidence to the Section Leader.
- You inform the Section Leader of any additional needs that your child may have and any medication required e.g. inhaler.
- You inform the Section Leader of any change in the family situation that is likely to affect your child's behaviour. It is not necessary to give details. All information will be treated in confidence.

SECTION INFORMATION

To be completed in full by the Section Leader before being issued to the parent or guardian of a new member.

| | | | | | |
|---|---------------|------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Scout Group / District / Area | | | | | |
| Section (Leader to Indicate) | Beaver Scouts | Cub Scouts | Scouts | Explorer Scouts | Scout Network |
| Meeting Place | | | | | |
| Meeting Day | | | | | |
| Start Time: | | | End Time: | | |
| Section Leader Name | | | | | |
| Contact Telephone Number | | | Email Address | | |
| The subscription fees (subs) are: £ | | | | | |
| Subs are paid: (Leader to Indicate) | Weekly | Monthly | Termly | Other (specify) | |
| The subs include / Do not include* the national Scout Association annual membership subscription. *delete as appropriate | | | | | |
| For other information, concerns / complaints not adequately addresses by the section Leader contact: | | | | | |
| Group Scout Leader: | | | Telephone | | |
| District Commissioner: | | | Telephone | | |