

A quick guide to scouting

...to help you get
started



Hello...

This booklet is to give you a bit more information about scouting and will add to what you've hopefully been told by someone in person.

And that's key - there is so much information out there it can be a bit mind boggling to start with - so booklets like this and our online welcome can't beat the personal touch.

So, if you have a question, or are unsure about something, please ask!

One really important thing... we want you to get just as much out of this experience as the young people do. If there's something going on that you like the look of, but don't know how to get involved, let us know.

A massive big thank you for the time you're about volunteer!

Our purpose...

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.



Welcome to scouting, you have joined a team of over 160,000 volunteers who help the scouts to provide fun, friendship, challenge and adventure to over 460,000 young people all over the UK!



Supporting you

Whatever your volunteering role, we aim to get you settled into it as quickly as possible so that you too can enjoy all the benefits that scouting has to offer. Over the next few months, members of your team will support you in getting to grips with all the things you need to know and will help you develop the skills that you need to be able to really get stuck in. For now, this quick guide will highlight some of the things that you might find useful early on.

Our values

Integrity

We say what we mean and when we make a promise, we keep it.

We listen to others, explore our differences and work to find common ground.

Respect

Care

We are friends to all and think of others before ourselves.

We believe passionately in improving the lives and life chances of young and helping them explore and develop their beliefs and attitudes.

Belief

Cooperation

Scouting is about teamwork. We believe that when we work together we achieve more than we can on our own.

Our key policies

Everyone that is involved in running and supporting scouting is required to act in accordance with the key policies of The Scout Association. They provide a framework within which we provide safe and inclusive scouting, in line with our purpose and values.

Child protection policy and young people first code of practice

It is the policy of The Scout Association to safeguard the welfare of all members by protecting them from neglect and from physical, sexual and emotional harm.

Our yellow card, young people first, details the child protection policy and code of practice.

Equal opportunities policy

No young person or adult in scouting should receive less favourable treatment on the basis of: class or socio-economic status; ethnic origin; nationality or race; gender (including gender reassignment); marital or civil partnership status; sexual orientation; disability; pregnancy and political or religious belief (including the absence of belief). All adults and young people in scouting should seek to practise equality.



Inclusive scouting

The policy of The Scout Association is to include young people with additional needs and disabilities in mainstream scouting wherever possible. Where it is not possible or appropriate, there is a network of specialist scout groups and explorer scout units for young people who would otherwise not be able to participate and enjoy scouting.

Anti-bullying policy

The Scout Association is committed to the prevention of all forms of bullying among Members.

Safety policy

It is the responsibility of all those involved in scouting to seek to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that all activities are conducted safely, without risk to the safety of participants. The purple card, safe scouting and emergency procedures, details the safety policy and code of practice.

Religious policy

Members of the movement are encouraged to do their best to make every effort to progress in the understanding and observance of the scout promise to do their duty to God or to uphold scouting values; to explore their faith, beliefs and attitudes; to consider belonging to some faith or religious body and to carry into daily practice what they profess.

Development policy

The scout movement is open to all young people. We are committed to making scouting available and accessible for all.



Getting started

Whether you have agreed to help local scouting occasionally, as a member of a parent rota, or are taking on a leader, supporter, trustee, active support or volunteer manager role we want to support you. We offer a wide range of training and support which is designed to provide you with the relevant knowledge and skills you need to make sure you are confident doing the role you've taken on. The topics the training scheme covers are split into modules and how many modules you do depends on your role.

Everyone's first step is to complete our essential information module (we call this module 1), which will provide you with an introduction to scouting and information on how we safeguard young people and the way we make scouting safe for everyone involved amongst a few other things.

Executive committee roles

If you are taking on a role as a member of an executive committee you can complete module 1 for executive members online at:

southlondonscouts.org.uk/01e

Occasional helpers, rota members or active support roles

If you are working with young people as a member of a beaver, cub or scout programme supporters rota or if you are getting involved with supporting scouting through providing active support you can complete module 1 online at:

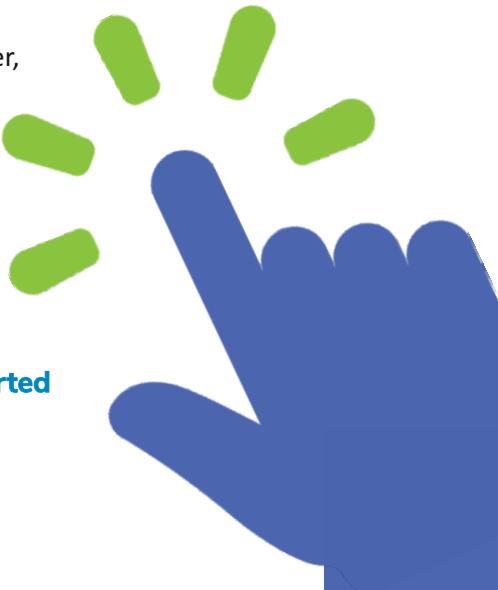
southlondonscouts.org.uk/01

Leader and section assistant roles

If you are taking on a leadership role, as a leader, assistant leader or beaver, cub or scout section assistant, we recommend that you attend one of our essential information evenings which will provide you with the opportunity to join in the discussion and ask questions.

You can find out when our next evening will take place at:

southlondonscouts.org.uk/getting-started





We hope this guide has been useful. Our welcome to scouting web pages will also help you find your feet you can find them at:

southlondonscouts.org.uk/welcome



southlondonscouts.org.uk



contact.us@southlondonscouts.org.uk



#SouthLondonScouts