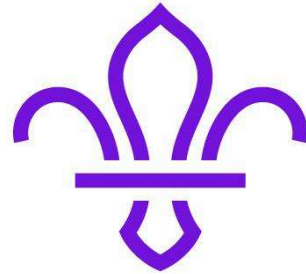


Scouts



5th Holme Valley
(Meltham)



WELCOME!

Dear Parent/Guardian

I wish you a very warm welcome to our group.

This welcome pack will hopefully answer any questions regarding the Scout Association and our Group.

If you have any further queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or my co-Group Leader Volunteer.

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co-Group Lead Volunteer
gsl@melthamscouts.org.uk
07984 165075

Christopher Penn
co-Group Lead Volunteer
agsl@melthamscouts.org.uk
07799 888104

WHAT IS SCOUTING?

Scouting is an international movement with over 28 million members worldwide, spread through 216 countries and territories. The number of countries recognising the value of Scouting and accepting its principles is increasing, and only six countries worldwide do not offer Scouting to young people.

There are about 500,000 members throughout the United Kingdom, including about 100,000 adults who are appointed voluntary leaders, administrators, and supporters.

The Scout Association in the UK offers equal opportunities for boys and girls, regardless of their social, religious, or ethnic background.

In 1991, girls were admitted to the Beaver, Cub, and Scout Sections, complementing the admission of young women to the Venture Scout Section in 1976.



In the spring of 2002, the Scout Association launched a new programme for youths aged 6-25. This was the most significant change to our curriculum for nearly 40 years. A careful change management strategy was devised to help people move forward, delivering a new way of providing Scouting to the 14-25 age range. In Summer 2021, the Scout Association launched a new junior section for children aged 4-6.

OUR GROUP

5th Holme Vally, Meltham, was formed in October 1918 by Norman "Pa" Booth. We are a fantastic group with three sections and over 50 young people. Several adult volunteers support these young people, alongside young leaders and many parents.

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EXPECTATIONS

Our primary aim is that every member of Meltham Scout Group feels valued and respected and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The Group's Code of Conduct is therefore designed to support how all members of the Group can work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure. The Meltham Scout Group expects every member to behave considerate and respectfully towards others. We treat all children fairly and consistently apply our Code of Conduct. Leaders provide a positive behaviour model and ensure high expectations are made explicit to the children.

Parents and Carers

Parents and Carers agree to the Behaviour Policy (ref appendix) when their child joins Meltham Scout Group. Parents must ensure their child/ren adheres to the Behaviour Policy and supports the Group's actions. However, they can address any queries regarding sanctions first to the Section Leader and then to the Group Leadership Team.

The Group actively collaborates with parents and carers so that children receive consistent messages about how to behave at home and in Scouting. We expect parents and carers to support their children's learning and cooperate with the group.

Uniform

For several reasons, all young people involved in Scouting must wear well-presented and clean uniforms.

Firstly, uniforms create a sense of unity and identity among scouts, fostering a strong team spirit and camaraderie.

Secondly, uniforms represent the values and principles of Scouting, instilling a sense of pride and commitment to the organisation's mission.

Additionally, clean and well-maintained uniforms reflect personal discipline and attention to detail, qualities highly valued in Scouting. Moreover, uniforms promote a professional and respectful image when interacting with the community, enhancing the reputation and credibility of the Scouting movement.

Lastly, uniforms visually represent the Scouting experience, allowing scouts to showcase their achievements and dedication proudly.

Parent (Family) Rota

At Meltham Scout Group, we strongly believe in fostering community and engagement among parents and family members. When a child joins our group, we expect parents to join in where they

can for example, on the parent rota, which is vital in creating a supportive and enriching experience for everyone involved.

Parents can actively contribute to their child's Scouting journey and build lasting connections with other families by participating in the parent rota. Whether it's helping with camp preparations, activities, or fundraising events, their involvement enhances the Scouting experience for their child and strengthens the bonds within our scout community.

Together, we create a thriving and inclusive environment where every child can flourish.

Fundraising

Fundraising is vital in supporting Meltham Scout Group and benefits your children in numerous ways. First, it enables the group to provide various activities, from camping trips to skill-building workshops, enhancing their personal growth and resilience. Second, fundraising ensures access to essential equipment, uniforms, and resources, fostering inclusivity for all scouts. Third, it helps maintain and improve facilities, creating a safe and stimulating environment. Fourth, fundraising aids in organising community outreach programs promoting teamwork, leadership, and community engagement.

By contributing to fundraising efforts with your time, you directly contribute to your child's development, enabling them to build lifelong skills and create lasting memories. Also, role-modelling positive behaviours is vital to a child's growth.

PARENTAL SUPPORT & ADULT HELP

Scouting depends on its adult volunteers, and we welcome your involvement.

As a parent of a group member, as a minimum, we expect you to help out for one evening with your young person's section each term as required and help in some other way for example, at one of our two termly maintenance sessions (each session is around two hours).

Could you help in one of the following ways and join the adventure Scouting offers adults and young people?

Did you know that we can offer you:

- Nationally recognised training and typical qualifications can include first aid and qualifications in climbing, water sports, sailing, archery, and even chainsaw use.
- You can also achieve tutoring qualifications in any/all of our activities.
- Offering a skill to help train or help one of the sections for a badge or award.
- Help prepare refreshments for a section or Group event.
- Help to transport some to any event away from the hall.
- Support the Scout Group at social evenings
- Support the Group's fundraising activities.



- Join the Executive committee and help manage the Scout Group
- Look after the waiting lists
- Help with the second-hand uniform and kit shop
- Or helping out with maintaining the hut and grounds.

If you, your partner, a friend or a relative is interested in Scouting as an adult occasionally or regularly, please email hello@melthamscouts.org.uk or speak to a leader. No previous experience is necessary, as training will be provided.

The only payment for being a leader (except basic expenses) is lots of fun and to make many friends!

ONLINE SCOUT MANAGER

At Meltham Scout Group, we use Online Scout Manager (OSM), which brings several valuable benefits that enhance the scouting experience for parents and their children. Here are some of the key advantages of using OSM:

1. **Enhanced Communication:** OSM provides a convenient and reliable platform for parents to receive important updates, event details, and announcements. It ensures that parents are well-informed about upcoming activities, schedule changes, and other relevant information, fostering better communication between scout leaders and parents.
2. **Clear Visibility of Activities:** With OSM, parents can easily access and view their child's scout calendar, which includes meetings, events, and camps. This visibility allows parents to plan and prepare accordingly, ensuring their child's participation in scouting activities without conflicts.
3. **Real-Time Updates:** OSM offers real-time updates and notifications, informing parents about changes or emergencies during events or meetings. This feature gives parents peace of mind, knowing they will receive timely information about their child's safety and well-being.
4. **Badge and Progress Tracking:** OSM simplifies badge and progress tracking, enabling parents to stay informed about their child's achievements and advancement within the scouting program. Parents can easily view their child's completed requirements, badges earned, and progress toward higher ranks, fostering a sense of pride and motivation.
5. **Volunteer Opportunities:** OSM provides a platform for parents to explore volunteer opportunities within the scout group. Parents can quickly sign up for tasks, events, or camps, actively participating in their child's scouting journey and contributing to the group's success.
6. **Secure Information Management:** OSM ensures the safe and secure storage of important information, such as medical details and emergency contacts. As a parent, you can trust that your child's information is protected while remaining easily accessible to authorised individuals when needed.

The Online Scout Manager offers parents a convenient and reliable tool for staying engaged, well-informed, and actively involved in their child's scouting activities. It provides a seamless experience that enhances communication, visibility, and participation, ultimately fostering a stronger connection between parents, Section Leaders, and the Scouting community.

THE PURPOSE OF SCOUTING

Scouting in the UK is organised through The Scout Association. The Scout Association has a clear purpose:

‘To help young people achieve their complete physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as Members of their local, national and international communities’.

Even if we can't solve all the problems in the world, we can help to make it a better place. We do this by helping young people to develop as active members of their community who are;

- self-reliant
- caring
- responsible
- commitment.

Scouting works well when young people enjoy learning by doing, a big part of which is in partnership with adults.

They do this by participating in various activities and new experiences, exploring the outdoors, participating in teams, and taking responsibility.

Our method for giving young people the opportunity to learn by doing is called the Programme. The programme is a seamless progression of training, activities, and awards that covers everything young people ages 4 to 25 do in scouting.

All adults in Scouting are responsible for ensuring the Programme is fun and exciting. We must also make sure that it is safe. The Scout Association's policies, rules, code of behaviour, and advice on child protection and safety help adults ensure that young people stay safe while they enjoy themselves and learn.

THE SCOUT PROMISE

Scouting has a simple and positive promise that all members must make. The Promise and the Scout Law give a distinctive ethos to the practices of the Movement and act as a bond with Scouts in other countries.

The three key principles are:

- Duty to self
- Duty to god
- Duty to others

Everyone in Scouting expresses their membership and acceptance of the three key principles by taking the Promise and following the Scout Law. Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts have unique Promise and Law, suitable for their age range.

The Scout Promise

On my honour, I promise that I will do my best
Either
To do my duty to God and to the King,
Or
To uphold our Scout values, to do my duty to the King,
To help other people
And to keep the Scout Law

Other alternative wordings can be viewed on the [Scout Association Website](#)

The Scout Law

- A Scout is to be trusted.
- A Scout is loyal.
- A Scout is friendly and considerate.
- A Scout belongs to the worldwide family of Scouts.
- A Scout has courage in all difficulties.
- A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property.
- A Scout has self-respect and respect for others.

The Scout Motto

Be prepared!

THE SIX SECTIONS

Irrespective of a member's age, a young person in the Movement is a 'Scout'.

The balanced programme comprises six sections, each with its own identity, ethos, and style, and it spans the age range of 4 to 25. Adult support varies across the different age groups.

A Squirrel Drey has members aged four and five. Generally, young people attend with an adult.

A Beaver Scout Colony has members aged between six and eight. (minimum age 5 $\frac{3}{4}$, maximum age 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ applies)

A Cub Scout Pack has members aged 8 – 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ (6-month flexibility applies)

A Scout Troop is for young people aged from 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 14 years (6-month flexibility applies)
These are all part of a **Scout Group**.

An Explorer Scout Unit is for people between 14 and 18 (minimum age 13 $\frac{1}{2}$, maximum age 18). Explorer Scout Units are part of a Scout District (Holme Valley District), although some are attached to Groups.

A Scout Network is for young people aged 18 - 25 years old. Scout Networks are the responsibility of the Scout County (West Yorkshire).

There are several essential things which make Scouting different from many other youth organisations:

- We are a uniformed movement
- We use 'Lodges', 'Sixes' and 'Patrols' of about six young people who work together, learning from and supporting each other.
- We involve young people in decision-making as part of their development.

Squirrels

The Squirrel Drey

A Squirrel Drey has members aged 4 and 5 years old.

Squirrels will gather to grow and learn through many different games and activities every week.

Squirrels will achieve anything they set their minds to and have lots of fun.

The one-hour sessions will be a brilliant opportunity for young people's first step into Scouting and preparing them for school years.

Outdoor activities, fun, games, badges, and so much more, Squirrels is the opportunity for young people to learn skills for life. Supported by extraordinary leaders delivering an inspiring programme. Squirrels give young people a chance to:

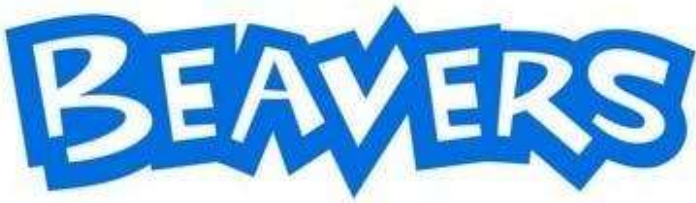
- Make friends
- Have fun outdoors
- Learn new things
- Earn badges through fun activities

Squirrel Scouts work towards 12 Activity Badges, four Challenge Awards, a Membership Award, a Joining-in Award, a Moving-on Award, and a Top Award.

Meetings

Unfortunately, we do not have a Drey at the moment, but please feel free to contact gsl@melthamscouts.org.uk if you want to help start one at Meltham Scout Group.





The Beaver Colony

A Beaver Scout Colony has members aged between 6 and 8 years old (6-month flexibility applies). They meet together as a Colony and work within small groups called 'Lodges'. A team of adults will run the Beaver Scout Colony. Beavers take part in a wide range of activities. These include making things, singing, playing games, visiting, investigating nature, listening to stories, etc. They do this by participating in a programme of activities that the leadership team provides.

Beaver Scouts:

Learn about themselves – exploring their feelings and developing good health and personal safety habits.

Get to know people – learn about people in their family, the family of Scouting, the local community, and the wider world.

Explore – discover the exciting world of science, nature, technology, and the natural and man-made world.

Care – growing and responding to the needs of others, the local community and the wider world.

Beaver Scouts work towards challenge awards, which are awarded by participating in the regular programme. With hard work and regular attendance, Beavers can earn their Bronze Award.

Beavers also have the opportunity to gain a wide range of Activity Badges, which they can work on both inside and outside pack meetings. A complete list of badges can be found on The Scouts website: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/beavers/activity-badges/>

Meetings

Our Beaver Colony meets on Tuesday evenings from 17:30 to 18:30.





The Cub Pack

A Cub Scout Pack has members aged 8-10 ½ years old (6-month flexibility applies). Cub Scouts meet as a Pack and work within various small groups called 'Sixes'. A team of adults will run the Cub Scout Pack, usually led by an Akela (a Hathi leads ours); some will be uniformed leaders, and others may be sectional assistants, helpers or parents.

Cubs participate in a wide range of activities designed to be interesting and challenging. At the same time, they have fun and adventure and make friends along the way. The leadership team provides activities such as camping, playing games, trying new things, and exploring the outdoors.

Cub Scouts work towards awards and badges. The Cub Scout Membership Award is presented to new Cub Scouts once they learn about the traditions and history of Scouting and being a Cub Scout today. Activity badges are specialist interest badges that can further develop a Cub Scout's interest. They can also form the basis for special events; some are geared toward the whole pack working together. With hard work and regular attendance, Cub Scouts can earn their Silver Award.

Camps and outings are the most memorable events of the year. They allow participants to experience activities that are impossible at the regular weekly meeting.

Hathi, the Cub Scout Leader responsible for the Pack, will lead the Leadership Team.

It is, however, a team effort, with everyone having something to offer.

Meetings

Our Cub Pack meets on Tuesday evenings from 18:30 to 20:00



SCOUTS

The Scout Troop

A Scout Troop is for young people aged 10 ½ - 14 (6-month flexibility applies). Scouts meet together as a Troop and work within various small groups called 'Patrols' led by a Scout Patrol Leader.

The Patrol Leaders work with the leadership team to set the programme and make decisions that affect the troop. The Patrol system is essential for young people to take responsibility for themselves and others.

A volunteer leadership team of uniformed Leaders, other informal Assistants and helpers will guide the Troop.

Scouting has a reputation as an outdoor organisation based on strong traditions of camping and other outdoor pursuits.

Scouts work towards challenge awards, culminating in the Chief Scouts Gold Award. Scouts also have the opportunity to gain a wide range of activity badges by working inside and outside troop meetings. Most badges and awards in Scouts require independent work by the scouts themselves.

Most Troops offer several events away from home during the year, often a summer camp. These are important to the troop's life as they culminate much of the training.

Meetings

Our Scout Troop meets on Monday evenings from 19:00 to 20:30 (occasionally 21:00)



WHERE DO WE MEET?

Many meetings are at the Scout Hut, Huddersfield Road, Meltham. HD9 4AL

If this is not the case due to activities which take part in the community or have to run at a specialist centre, your Section Leadership Team will give you advance notice.

We are lucky to have a purpose-built hut on a three-acre site that includes a playing field, wood, stream, and campsite.



HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Scout Groups charge subscriptions to cover the equipment cost and the resources to enable us to deliver good quality Scouting. Part of those subscriptions (subs) go towards the annual membership fee paid to headquarters for the day-to-day running of The Scout Association, which includes insurance for all members.

The monthly subscription is £17.00 for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts (correct at the time of publication – see front page).

Subs are collected by bank transfer, by Direct Debit through our online management system (Online Scout Manager. See page 7), or only, if necessary, cash as advised by the section leader, usually by email. Please make cheques payable to “**Meltham Scout Group**”.

The first few sessions are free for young people trying out Scouting.

Financial Help

We appreciate that funds can sometimes be tight. If you need help with the cost of a camp, etc., or if you want to spread the payments, please chat with one of the Leaders. We are as flexible as possible and would rather know in advance than be chasing you later!

We are keen that everyone has the opportunity to attend at least one camp each year.

It is not our policy to exclude any young person from an activity because of cost; however, we do not currently have a bursary fund.

Gift Aid

The Group can now recover income tax on any donation provided a declaration has been made to cover the tax reclaim. Donations may now be of any value. The only criterion is that the individual donating has to pay income tax or capital gains tax of at least the amount to be recovered by the Group. If you pay by cheque, the name on the cheque must match the Gift Aid declaration.

If you sign the attached declaration, the Group can claim up to 25p in each £1 from the ‘Tax Man’.

This will help the Group's finances and reduce the pressure on essential fundraising!

giftaid it

A gift aid form is included in this pack, or it can be claimed through Online Scout Manager.



How do I join?

Due to the group's popularity, there is usually a waiting list for entry into each section of the Group. Space and the number of adult volunteers who can attend regularly limit our numbers.

Once a group member, young people are guaranteed a space in the next section as they progress.

We try to accommodate siblings of existing members; however, siblings are not automatically entered, so they must be added to the waiting list in the usual manner.

How do I put my name on the waiting list?

The only way to join the waiting list is to use the form on the website to register under [Contact Us | Join](#).

You must provide the young person's name, date of birth, and contact details for a responsible adult.

Sectional numbers are discussed regularly throughout the year. A leadership team member will contact you when you register, and your young person is likely to start a term before that.

Health



The Scout Association Rules stipulate that no child can undertake any activity without a Health Information Form. Most sections do this online by sending an email reminder before each event.

Please complete the Member Details Form (on Online Scout Manager, your Leader should send you a link), which will be kept on file by the section leader for regular week-to-week activities. You will be sent a permission form with a health information section for out-of-the-ordinary activities. Please include anything relevant to the activity on that form, including dietary restrictions.

Safety

The Scout Association takes pride in its safety record. Leaders receive guidance through district and county support to ensure the safety of Scouting activities. Safety issues are also extensively covered in our Leader Training.



We have special authorisation arrangements (permits) to ensure Scouts are in safe hands for more adventurous activities such as water sports, caving and mountaineering.

Child Protection

The Scout Association's child protection policy is called the 'Young People First' policy.

It's often called the 'yellow card' policy because of the pocket-sized reminder card all adults are asked to keep and carry.

The 'Young People First' policy is a best practice praised by child protection agencies. The Scout Association also enjoys the confidence and trust of thousands of parents who place their children in our care each week.

The Scout Association's policy is to safeguard all members' welfare by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm. The Scout Association is committed to:

- taking into account in all its considerations and activities the interests and well-being of young people;
- respecting the rights, wishes and feelings of the young people with whom it is working ;
- taking all reasonable practicable steps to protect them from physical, sexual, and
- emotional abuse, and
- promoting young people's welfare and protection within a relationship of trust.

All adults aged eighteen or over, no matter their role or involvement within Scouting, are responsible for always putting this policy into practice.



If you would like a copy of the Yellow Card, please ask your Section Leader. It is also displayed in Poster form in the hut.

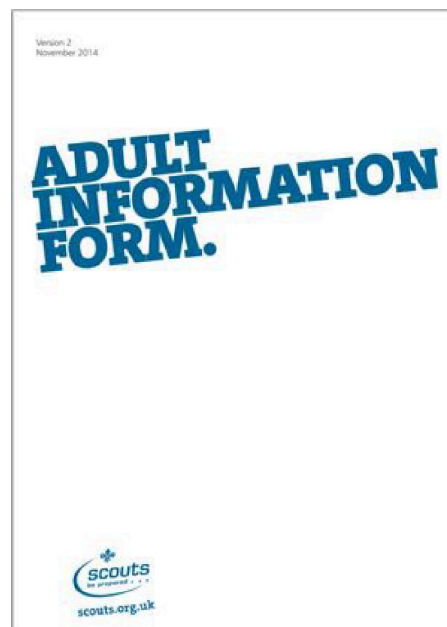
DISCLOSURE AND BARRING

Scouting continues to hold the safety and well-being of your child with utmost importance. Therefore, the policy of The Scout Association is that every adult in Scouting should complete a 'DBS disclosure'; every adult in Scouting means – any adult who holds a role within our organisation, be it Cub Leader, Group Executive Committee Member or regular parent volunteer. As a Group, we follow The Scout Association and its policies to keep young people in our care safe from harm.

We have therefore adopted the policy and now encourage every adult connected to Scouting in our district – that now means parents and guardians who are regularly involved in Scouting events. We have taken this path as some parents support scouting in many ways other than joining our regular meetings, such as transporting young people in their cars or joining group activities such as family camps.

Please note that completing a DBS check is **not** a condition of your young person joining and participating in Scouting, however not completing one will prevent you from joining in with some activities, for example, Family Camp.

Should you wish to become involved in the group as an adult (and we encourage it – it is fun!), we would look to record your details and undertake a DBS check. This can be done online or, if necessary, using a paper form. The most up-to-date Adult Information form can be downloaded from the Scout Association website.



BADGES, UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

Each section has its uniform, although the activity trousers are common to all sections. Specific activities may have additional requirements. With any luck, your Section Leader will notify you well in advance.

Squirrels

A Squirrel Scout uniform consists of the following items.

A Squirrel Scout jumper

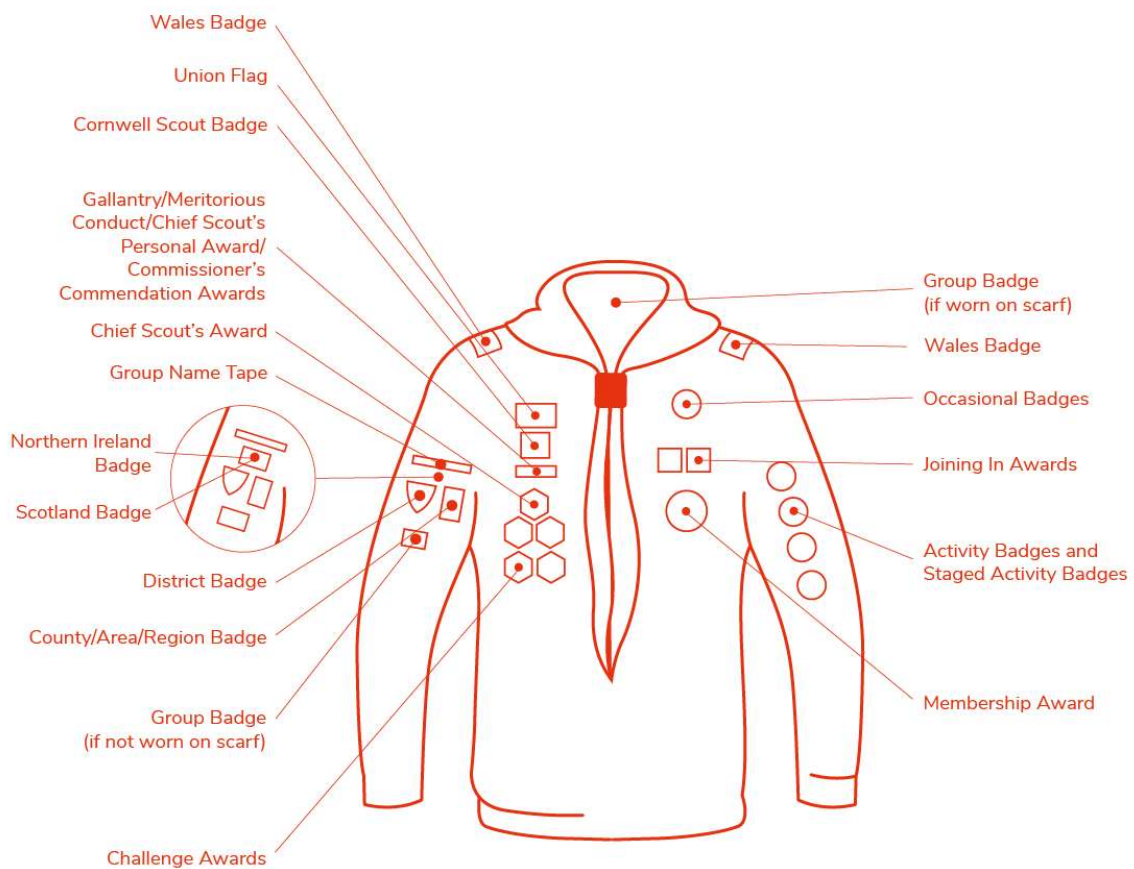
Scout activity trousers

A Squirrel Scout polo

Group necker with a woggle (both presented by the group on investiture – ours is yellow with blue edging)

In addition to the specific uniform items, each member should have a **waterproof jacket, a day sack of sufficient size to carry lunch, and a drink and waterproofs.**

Squirrel Scout uniform

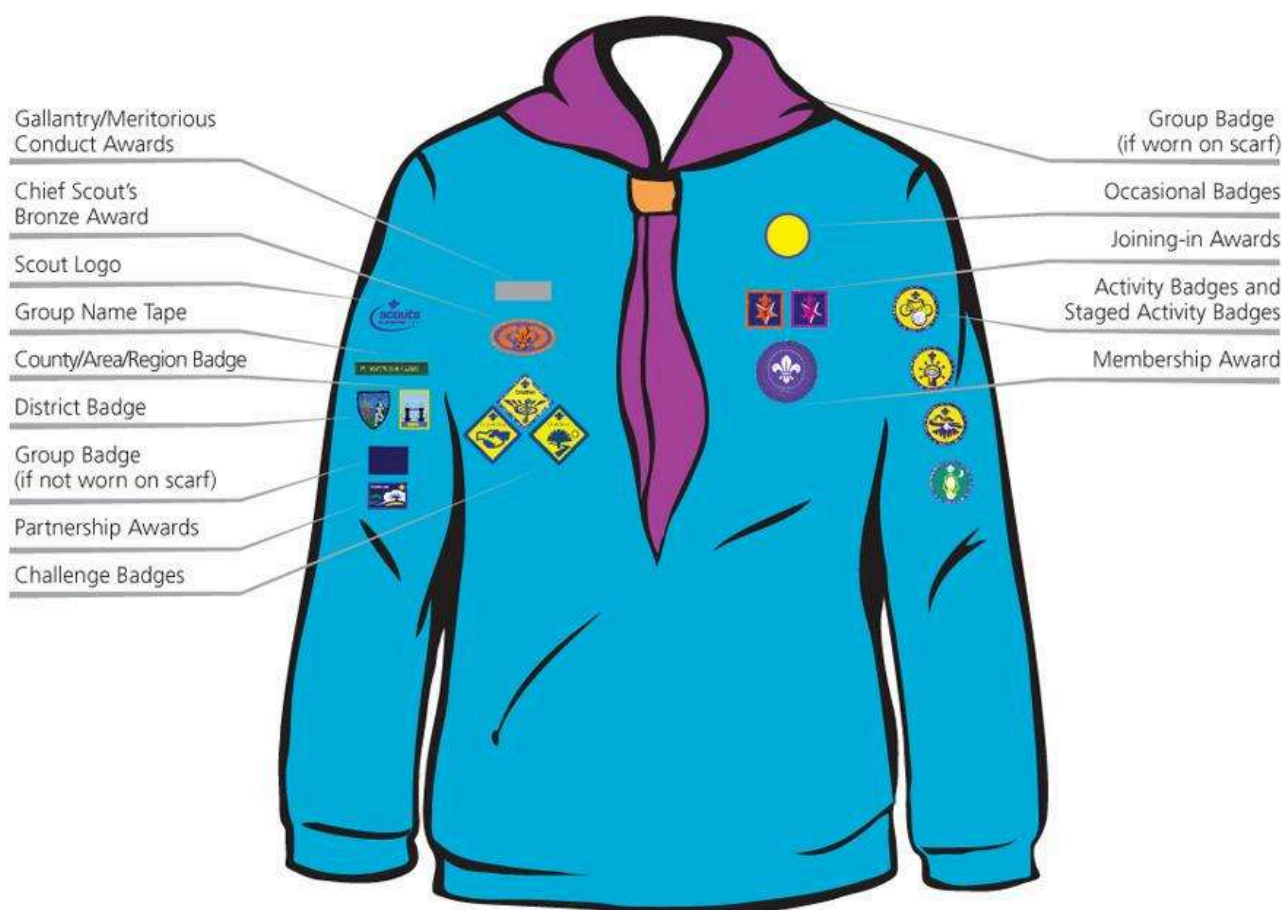


Beavers

The Beaver Scout uniform consists of the following items.

- A Beaver Scout jumper
- Scout activity trousers
- A Beavers scout polo
- Group necker with a woggle (both presented by the group on investiture – ours is yellow with blue edging)

In addition to the specific uniform items, each member should have a **waterproof jacket, a day sack of sufficient size to carry lunch, and** a drink and waterproofs.



Cubs

Cub uniform consists of the following items.

- Green polo shirt
- Green sweatshirt
- Group necker with a woggle (both presented by the group – ours is yellow with blue edging)
- Scout activity trousers

In addition to the specific uniform items, each Member should have a **set of waterproofs** (jacket and trousers), a **day sack** of sufficient size to carry lunch, and a drink and waterproofs.



Scouts

Scout uniform consists of the following items

- A scout shirt

- Scout activity trousers

- Scout belt

- Group necker with a woggle (both presented by the group on investiture – ours is yellow with blue edging)

Scouts will need a torch, a notebook and pen, a waterproof jacket and trousers, and walking boots or stout shoes for many activities. Check the programme. Ask a leader for advice.

Scout Uniform



Scout Shops

All the uniforms mentioned above are conveniently available at various locations. The District and County HQ at Bradley Wood offer various uniforms, ensuring accessibility for local scouting communities. (see <http://www.bradleywood.org.uk/youth/scout-guide/shop>)

[The Scout Shop](#) is also a dedicated outlet specialising in scouting merchandise, including uniforms. It is an online shop only with no physical shop.

Both of these places return profits to Scouting.



Contact Details

co-Group Lead Volunteer

gsl@melthamscouts.org.uk

co-Group Lead Volunteer

agsl@melthamscouts.org.uk

Beavers Leadership Team

beavers@melthamscouts.org.uk

Cubs Leadership Team

cubs@melthamscouts.org.uk

Scouts Leadership Team

scouts@melthamscouts.org.uk

General Enquiries

hello@melthamscouts.org.uk

Group Chairperson

chairperson@melthamscouts.org.uk

Group Treasurer

treasurer@melthamscouts.org.uk

Group Secretary

secretary@melthamscouts.org.uk

Holme Valley District Commissioner

dc.holmevalley@wyscouts.org.uk

Hut enquiries

hello@thehutmeltham.org.uk

Programme of Recurring Events

Every year is different, but several events occur around the same time each year.

Section(s)	When	Activity
All	Sunday pm. near the end of April	St Georges Day Parade
All	Wednesday in early July	Group AGM and prize-giving
Scouts	Summer holidays	Summer Camp (7 nights)
Cubs	Summer holidays	Summer Camp
All	Friday near 5 th Nov	Fireworks Night
All	Sunday am. near 11 th Nov	Remembrance Sunday Parade

Appendices

Behaviour Policy

We, the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts of the 5th Holme Valley Scout Group, undertake to keep the following behaviour code

- Have Fun! We come to Beavers/Cubs/Scouts to enjoy ourselves and have fun, understanding that we all need to respect each other and the Law and Promise we have made.
- Meetings: Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts attend meetings regularly, on time, and in clean uniforms.
- Teamwork: Scouting is all about working together as teams, and we would ask that everyone joins in and works together, particularly in Lodges / Sixes / Patrols.
- Respect: Leaders and young people listen to and respect each other, including personal beliefs and opinions, and respect an individual's belongings.
- Language: Aggressive, violent, or inappropriate language, including swearing, is prohibited.
- No Bullying: Scouting has zero tolerance for bullying. There is no bullying, harassment or picking on others, particularly younger children.
- No one makes fun of anyone else because of his or her ethnicity or race, religion, or ability level.
- Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts don't make noise or disrupt during quiet times like inspections, flag breaks, or flag downs when game rules/activities are being explained or when a Leader requests silence.
- Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts accept instructions from Leaders, including their Patrol Leaders or Sixers.
- Games are great fun, but no one likes people breaking the rules or disrupting games or activities. Please don't.
- In any game invoking elimination (someone being out), the young person accepts the decision if it is given against them with grace.
- Defacing or damaging equipment, display boards, belongings or scout property may result in suspension.

Positive Behaviour:

Although expected, positive behaviour will be rewarded in a variety of ways; these could include:

- Verbally
- Rewarding of Lodge/Six/Patrol points
- Additionally, positive behaviour increases the trust section leaders have with young people, resulting in more opportunities and adventurous activities.

Behaviour Management System:

If unacceptable behaviour is warned about, it will stop immediately. Failure to do so will result in following the Behaviour Warning System.

Verbal Warnings

If the behaviour of a Beaver / Cub / Scout is considered to have fallen below the 'Group Code of Acceptable Behaviour' and fails to meet the Behaviour, that Beaver / Cub / Scout, or group of Beavers / Cubs / Scouts, will be given a verbal warning by a Leader.

The offender(s) will be told to stop whatever they are doing and warned what will happen if they don't comply. Examples of unacceptable behaviour could be: -

- Continual talking or verbal disruption when a 'Leader' has asked for quiet.
- Continuing with unacceptable or disruptive behaviour after being directly told to stop.
- Persistent refusal to follow instructions or the rules of a game.

Yellow Cards

If a verbal warning is ignored, the Beaver / Cub / Scout will receive a "Yellow Card."

The Section Leader will record the name of the individual (s) and details of the incident.

The Section member's Parent(s) / Guardian(s) will also be informed. The Group Scout Leader will also be notified.

The young person will automatically sit out for 10 minutes of any activity.

Depending on the incident, the sanction may involve spending more time in the 'Yellow Card Zone', e.g., separated from the rest of the group until the end of a particular game or programme activity.

Examples of this type of behaviour include: -

- Threatening language or behaviour – (not involving physical violence).
- Careless disregard of property leading to its damage.
- Challenging the authority of a Leader/Instructor or Helper.

Red Cards

If the Beaver / Cub/ Scout commits a second Yellow Card offence on the same night, they will receive a Red Card.

Again, the individual's name and details of the issue will be recorded, and the young person will not be allowed to participate further in that evening's meeting.

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) of the Section member will be advised of the issue of a Red Card as soon as it is practical. The Group Scout Leader will also be informed.

Depending on the situation, the Section Leader may send for the Parent(s) or Guardian(s) to collect their child early. Sending a Scout home (if they make their way to Troop meetings) could also be an option, but only after the Parent(s) or Guardian(s) had been contacted and advised.

Certain offences could result in the immediate issue of a Red Card. Examples of these include:

- Bullying or a physical, unprovoked attack on another Group Member
- Blatant vandalism to property or equipment
- Deliberate defiance of clearly given instructions - particularly where safety is threatened.

Red Card Suspension

If a young person receives a Red Card, he or she will automatically be suspended from the next meeting.

Depending on the circumstances, the suspension may last more than one meeting.

The member's attendance may be at risk if a camp or outing is imminent. The parent/guardian and section leader will discuss the member's attendance.

In some cases, the Section Leader may also request a letter of apology.

Before allowing the young person to return to the section, the section leader, parent(s) or guardian(s), and the Group Scout Leader will agree on a documented approach to ensure the incident/behaviour does not recur.

Continual Breaches of the Behaviour Policy

If a young person receives four Yellow Cards in a rolling 6-month period, they will be suspended as outlined under a red card suspension (which will also count as a red card in terms of possible future exclusion).

Before allowing the young person to return to the section, the section leader, parent(s) or guardian(s), and the Group Scout Leader will decide on an agreed-upon and documented approach to ensure the incident/behaviour does not reoccur.

Appeal

The 5th Holme Valley Scout group operates an “open-door policy.” Contact the group leadership team to discuss this policy or have any incidents or behaviour reviewed.

Exclusion

Exclusion proceedings will be initiated based on the third red card if a young person receives three Red Cards (either as a Beaver, Cub, or Scout).

This is a grave matter involving the Section Leader and Group Scout Leader, which will also include the District Commissioner and could result in exclusion from all Scout Groups in the District.

Data Capture/Storage

Only details of Red/Yellow cards will be kept; these will be stored for the following periods: Yellow incidents will be stored for six months, and red incidents will be maintained as long as the young person remains part of the group. The information will only be shared with relevant section leaders, leadership teams, and the family.

Gift Aid Declaration form

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I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

FAQs

Please notify The Scout Association if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration.
- Change your name or home address.
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay income tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

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