

Group Occasional Helper

Dear Helper,

Thank you for completing a DBS disclosure check and volunteering your time with the group. Please can I ask you to Complete the Basic safeguarding e-learning. Please enter this click this link or paste into your browser.

<https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/4050/safeguarding-awareness-online-training?moduleID=10>

Safeguarding Awareness online training

There are four sections within the training:

1. Introduction
2. What is abuse?
3. Bullying
4. Our role, your responsibilities

At the end, you will be able to complete the final section 'What would you do?' Once completed, this allows you to print off a certificate.

Before you start.

The training will take approximately 30 minutes and you need to do it all in one go. You will need a printer to print off the certificate at the end of the course to give to Richard Smith GSL or alternatively press 'prt sc' on the top row of your computer keyboard and take a screen picture of the certificate and email to gsl@7thdarlingtonseascouts.org.uk.

So, what exactly is an occasional helper?

Group Chair: Alex Edwards chairperson@7thdarlingtonseascouts.org.uk

Group Secretary: Emily McMillan group.secretary@7thdarlingtonseascouts.org.uk

Group Treasurer: Chris Gibson treasurer@7thdarlingtonseascouts.org.uk

Group Manager: Richard Smith gsl@7thdarlingtonseascouts.org.uk

An occasional helper can be anyone who would like to help and support the group as and when needed. It maybe you help cover a Wednesday night as we are short on leaders or come along on a day trip / camp to make sure we have the correct number of adults.

Occasional helpers are generally parents/carers of current youth members or even partners of current leaders who cannot commit to be a full leader due to time or other reasons. Sometime people aren't exactly sure what it entails to help with the group so come along as an occasional helper at first to see what happens and how we operate and later chose to take the next step and become a leader.

Others are happy to stay as an occasional helper and come along when needed.

Some occasional helpers might make up the group executive committee such as chair person or treasurer and secretary but also help with the running of the group when needed.

What does it entail?

The role of the occasional helper is to be an extra adult in the room to help supervise and aid the children. We don't ask or expect occasional helpers to run a section or help with planning, but we do have some that do and do a fantastic job! You will never be left alone with children and will only ever be asked to help with something that you feel comfortable with.

What training does an occasional helper complete?

The honest answer is None, but in this group, we have decided that it is best practice for all adults to complete the basic Safeguarding training as detailed on page one. this is to allow you to have a basic understanding of the scouting way of safeguarding and to keep you and the young people safe.

What rules does scouting follow?

All Scout Association groups in the UK follow the P.O.R. document a copy can be viewed online by visiting the Association website www.scouts.org.uk

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When will I be needed?

We need help on Wednesday nights and at camps and activities when you become familiar with the leaders in the section you help with it will be best to speak to the section leader and section assistants and leave as and when but generally all help is appreciated.

I am not happy about something?

Its perfectly normal for adults not to agree but when dealing with children we must always be professional even in a volunteering setting. Please speak with the person who you are having the disagreement with in the first instance should you need to escalate the problem then please speak to Richard Smith GSL.

Am I insured?

Yes, The Scout Association covers all supports helpers and leaders and the group has taken out additional adult insurance please speak to Richard Smith GSL for further information

I would like to become a leader!

Brilliant please speak to Richard Smith GSL who will arrange to meet with you and discuss the next steps.

It's not for me!

Sometimes people become occasional helpers but don't enjoy it or simply don't like it. this is understandable but please speak to us as it may be something we can change or if not, we will know to cancel your role and not put you under pressure to help in the future.

Where am I needed which section shall I help?

Most people help with one section some help with all it entirely up to you, its generally better to stick to one section then the young people can get to know you and vice versa although this doesn't stop you helping in other sections. There might be a time when we are particularly short in a section or for a camp and activity and we may ask if you are available to help to cover this.

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Will I get paid/expenses?

The Scout Association is a voluntary organisation, and you will not be paid for your role. However, no adult should feel that cost prohibits them from taking up a role in Scouting, and we are committed to reimbursing out of pocket expenses for all volunteers. You should speak to Richard Smith to find out how this works.

Who is responsible for administering first aid if there is an accident?

All trained adults in Scouting should have an up to date first aid certificate of First Response level or equivalent and are responsible for the young people in their care. Occasional helpers do not normally hold the required first aid certificate with scouting, but we do recognise any learning or courses you have completed with work etc, at all times any incident requiring First Aid should be reported to a leader who will administer the First Aid and ensure all reporting procedures are followed, should you wish to attend a First Response course please speak to Richard Smith

The Scout Association is committed to this ethos and seeks to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the prevention of all forms of bullying among Members. To this end all Scouting activities should have in place rigorous anti-bullying strategies.

Anti-Bullying Policy "Children have the right to protection from all forms of violence (physical or mental). They must be kept safe from harm and they must be given proper care by those looking after them." [The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 19]

It is the responsibility of all adults in Scouting to help develop a caring and supportive atmosphere, where bullying in any form is unacceptable. Adults in Scouting should:

- be aware of the potential problems bullying may cause;
- be alert to signs of bullying, harassment or discrimination;
- take action to deal with such behaviour when it occurs, following Association policy guidelines;
- provide access for young people to talk about any concerns they may have;
- encourage young people and adults to feel comfortable and caring enough to point out attitudes or behaviour they do not like;
- help ensure that their Group/Section has a published anti-bullying code.

The above Bullying policy covers every person in the group from adults to youth members, bullying from any person to any person will not be tolerated and you will be removed from the group.

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10 THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT SCOUTING

Scouting is for girls as well as boys.

Scouting is a global movement.

Young people can join at any stage of their development.

The Scout Association is a registered charity.

Scouting is great value!

Robert Baden-Powell, the Founder of Scouting was recently voted the 13th most influential person of the 20th Century.

Famous former Scouts include Paul McCartney, Billy Connolly, Stephen Spielberg and David Beckham.

Each day 100,000 people in the UK take part in Scouting activities.

Scouting for Boys, Baden-Powell's blueprint for the Scout Movement is one of the most popular books of all time.

Scouting was 100 in 2007.

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