





# **Attendance Policy**

### Background

Scouting is designed as a continuous programme of activities that equips young people with the skills they need to succeed in life. We expect that all young people will attend every week unless they have a good reason.

Our volunteer leaders put a lot of time and effort into planning the programme, and having young people drop out with little or no notice causes disruption, wasted time and potential disappointment for other young people.

In addition, the group has a healthy waiting list and there have been occasions where a young person has missed one section due to non-availability of places.

#### Informing us of Absence

We understand that life often throws many commitments together at the same time, or that sometimes the unexpected occurs. When this does happen, we ask that you let the leader/organiser of the activity know as soon as possible of the expected absence.

This can be done via OSM on the event/program, by emailing the leader, or calling them directly.

#### Non-attendance

After three consecutive weeks of non-attendance with or without notification, The Section Leader will contact the Young Persons parents to discuss the reasons for repeated non-attendance and discuss an attendance improvement plan. If attendance does not improve over a further three weeks with the improvement plan, then the young person's membership may be terminated.

In addition, attendance is regularly monitored throughout the term to ensure that best use is made of available spaces. Where a young person's attendance is low (excepting reported illness) the Section Leader will contact the parents to discuss the reasons for this. Should attendance not improve, the young person's membership may be terminated.

If a young person has a disclosed medical condition that may have an impact on their attendance, the Leader of their section will discuss this with the Parent/Carer and a plan for supporting attendance will be discussed and agreed separately.

Where the young person's membership is terminated any subs paid will be forfeited. Payments for trip fees or other dues will be only refunded if the place can be filled by another young person.

## Trip Signups

We use an automated system to send out signup requests for trips and events. Parents/Carers are asked to ensure that a response is made to these requests by clicking on the link and responding either "yes" or

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"no" – not responding at all makes it very hard for our leaders to plan trips as they do not have a good idea of how many will be attending.

If you do not respond to a signup request before the specified deadline then we cannot guarantee that your child will be given a place at the event.

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