

CONSIDERING VOLUNTEERING AS A LEADER?

Congratulations! Clear your mind - forget whatever you're already thinking. Here are the facts!

ENJOYABLE – REWARDING – FUN

First the positives. It's fun. All children like to have fun; they learn best when they're having fun, and they behave best when they're actively engaged in what they enjoy doing. If they're having fun then it's fun for the Leaders too.

It's rewarding. Scouting, at all levels, is all about making new friends and learning new skills. Watching and helping the children develop their practical and social skills, their self confidence and, in due course, their leadership skills and a sense of duty to others is rewarding in itself.

All the Leaders in the Group work as one team and often become personal friends.

So what's the downside? Not much really – check it out.

HOW MUCH TIME WILL IT INVOLVE?

As much or as little as you can give. The sections meet one evening each week in term time. If there are 3 Leaders that's one week in three. The more Leaders there are the lighter the load on each. Some preparation may be required but the Section Leader will develop the programme which can save most of the preparation time. And there are lots of on-line resources and lots of other Leaders in the Group who can help with advice, support, or even leading a session if none of the regular Leaders are available.

DO I HAVE THE RIGHT SKILLS?

Yes. Because you don't need any to start with. The Scout Association operates a free and comprehensive training programme (much of it available via e-Learning) and there is an almost unlimited supply of support material and other resources available. Most Leaders in the Group joined with no previous experience of Scouting and discovered talents they didn't know they had!

WHAT WILL IT COST?

We ask Leaders to volunteer their time, not their money. Leaders will need to buy a uniform shirt. Any other expenses will be refunded, and Leaders supervising children on trips and other events attend free of charge

WILL I BE ABLE TO CONTROL 24 CHILDREN?

Yes. Remember they are there because they want to be. Children of all ages like to know who is in charge, like to know the rules, like to see them enforced, like everyone to be treated fairly, like to feel safe. If all else fails making them sit down in a horseshoe will usually calm even the wildest situation. If they're having fun in a safe environment they will respond accordingly. You might feel anxious before taking the lead for the first time – most new Leaders do. By the end of the session you'll be wondering why you were worried!

So give us a call, or come in and see for yourself.

“Two things matter in life: following your dreams and looking after your friends. This is what I love about Scouting. It's about doing great things, loving and enjoying the great adventures and helping others to do the same.”
(Bear Grylls, Chief Scout)