

What does it mean to be a Leader / Helper?

What is the Job

A Leader or Helper is part of the adult team providing fun and a sense of achievement to the young people in their section. We achieve this through our weekly programmes, which offer a balance between games and learning skills appropriate to the age range. The team will normally get together each half term and plan the activities for the next few weeks with a combination of indoor and outdoor activity.

What is the Commitment?

The commitment varies depending on the age range of the section you are involved in and is made up of three main components:

1. The weekly meetings
2. Planning meetings
3. Other Activities and Camps which could be Section, Group, District or County based

What Skills do I need?

If you have enthusiasm, a sense of fun and some basic common sense then you are ready to help out. You will be surprised how much of your own life experience will be of benefit to the Beavers, Cubs or Scouts and how quickly you will learn new skills by working with other adults and the young people themselves. Previous Scouting and Guiding experience is not necessary.

Is there any Training?

Scouting offers a wide range of training ranging from a basic understanding of Scouting and basic outdoor skills through to Mountaineering and Archery. All adults new to Scouting are required to undertake some basic training which consists of a DVD and attending a couple of evening sessions on the programme structure and planning.

The welfare of the young people in our care is our number 1 priority and therefore:-

- Every adult is required to go through the Criminal Records Check to ensure that they are fit to work with young people.
- In addition, within Hayling we also expect all of our Leaders and Helpers to complete the "First Response" basic First Aid course (1 day) and Child Protection training (1 evening).

What about Uniform?

We are a uniformed organisation and the young people involved wear the Scout uniform and we would therefore prefer that all helpers wear the uniform as well. On Hayling we took a decision many years ago that the cost of uniform for all adults is covered by the Group.

And Remember

- Most of our Leaders have full time jobs and families so we understand and recognise the priority decisions that have to be made. Flexibility is key to the way we operate.
- Many Leaders do not have any previous experience of Scouting or Guiding
- I guarantee you will learn new skills and make new friends.
- We do this because we enjoy it and gain our own sense of achievement.
- It is not necessary for all Leaders to take part in all events. This is why we have teams who can share the workload!