

Briefing Note for Leaders & Young Leaders, Missions & the Programme

What is the Young Leader Training Programme?

The Young Leaders have 11 formal training modules to complete covering all aspects of scouting; the programme they follow is very similar to that the scout leaders follow but not always to the same level of detail. They then have to put it what they have learnt into practice by completing 4 Missions. Each of the missions is described below.

Some of the groups already have Young Leaders doing the training and they have agreed to support the training programme by ensuring the Young Leaders get the opportunity to complete the Missions. I would hope, as we get Young Leaders from the other groups the same support will be available to them for the completion of their missions.

For those that are doing the Duke of Edinburgh's award the programme the programme works alongside the voluntary work that the Explorer Scouts are doing. **Module A is mandatory regardless of which level your Young Leaders are going for. Their books cannot be signed off with scouting forming part of their voluntary work unless Module A has been completed.** The number of modules the Young Leader needs to attend depends on which DofE award they are doing. In addition they are working towards being a qualified young leader with the scout movement. The structure of the Young Leader Award and the support at the meetings and camps provide the Young Leaders with the relevant experience that the DofE Award requires. Young people cannot assist at scout meetings for the DofE programme unless they become Explorer Young Leaders.

Any explorer doing DofE has to register with Liz Jack for Young Leader Training, apart from Module A they then have to do 2 hours training for each level i.e. 2 hours for Bronze, a further 2 hours for Silver and 2 more hours for Gold.

In conjunction with this they complete their volunteering with a Group (Beavers, Cubs or Scouts). 3 months for Bronze, 6 months for Silver and 12 months for Gold.

Module A is run twice a year and the other modules run on an ad hoc basis, sessions normally take place on a Sunday evening at 5 or 6 o'clock depending on Gang Show rehearsals.

The scout association recommend that a group (Bearers, Cubs or Scouts) has no more than 2 young leaders at any one time as they tend to spend more time chatting rather than volunteering but there can be exceptions to this rule. Leaders must not sign off the voluntary work as complete unless the training has been complete.

The Missions are completed in any sequence but they do need to follow the formal training, the idea is to put into practice what has been learnt in the formal sessions (Modules A to K). The leaders' sign off the mission by letting me know what has been completed, but given pressure on the leaders the explorers as told to tell Liz Jack when a mission has been

Briefing Note for Leaders & Young Leaders, Missions & the Programme

completed, this makes sure that their progress is recorded (lizjack00@hotmail.com). Liz Jack will then check retrospectively with the group the explorer is volunteering with to ensure all requirements for a mission have been completed.

Explorers that are registered with the DofE have sometimes been doing the voluntary work for a number of months, if this is the case they may have the relevant time already spent allocated towards the missions and it counts towards the award. Liz Jack will, however, have to check out what has been done with the leader and confirm that it complies with the Mission requirements as shown below.

The Young Leader Missions are as follows, when completing the missions the Young Leader should, for each Mission:

1. Use the information from the Young Leaders' Scheme modules that they have completed.
2. Not be afraid to ask for a Leader's help and support.
3. Have fun!

On completion of a mission or a part of a mission, the Young Leader should have a discussion with the Scout Leader about the activity. The discussion with the Scout Leader should take about 15 minutes after which the Young Leader will be told that they have passed this part of the Mission or told what else needs to be done to pass.

The format of the discussion between the Young Leader and the leader addresses the following; the Young Leader should have thought about and be prepared to address/discuss with the Leader:

- What have you done?
- Why did you do it?
- What did you want to achieve?
- What did the Section members get from it?
- What did you learn from it?
- What would you do differently next time?
- How do you feel about it now?

MISSION 1

Plan and run three indoor meetings for the Section with which you are working.

- Each meeting must come from a different programme Zone and should contribute towards the badge work of the section.
- Use elements from the *Programme Plans* and *Programme Plans Plus* modules to help you produce these parts of the Balanced Programme.

Briefing Note for Leaders & Young Leaders, Missions & the Programme

MISSION 2

1. Plan and run three outdoor activities in the Section that you are working within.
 - Be original! Use a new method to deliver the activities.
 - Use elements from the *Programme Plans* and *Programme Plans Plus* modules to help you produce these parts of the Balanced Programme.
2. Create a way to record the badge work covered during your three mission activities.

MISSION 3

1. Plan and run three meetings of the Sectional Forum. This may include:
 - Running the meeting. (Attributes from *Taking the Lead*, *What did they say?* and *Prepare for Take Off!*).
 - Organising for someone to take notes/minutes/points of action.
 - Setting the agenda.
 - Deciding who should attend and inviting them.
 - Making everyone feel involved and valued for his or her contribution.
2. Take appropriate action based on the decisions made at these meetings. Draw up a plan for each action, including:
 - A description of the job to be undertaken.
 - The tasks involved.
 - Timescale.
 - Details of support required.
 - What the desired outcomes are.

MISSION 4

1. Taking responsibility for part of the organisation and running the Section in which you are working. This will include.
 - Taking responsibility for planning the programme.
 - Delivering the content of a Challenge or Activity Badge.
 - Taking responsibility for record keeping in the Section or working with the Leader that does this to gain a full and complete understanding of what records are kept and why.
2. Plan and lead a planning meeting, including:
 - Working with the Section Leader to integrate your sessions into the overall programme.
 - Cover all the Programme Zones.
 - Delivering a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities.

Briefing Note for Leaders & Young Leaders, Missions & the Programme

Young Leader training sessions will be held about six times a year with the aim of completing one of the modules at each session. A training session lasts about an hour and a half and that completes a module.

There are 11 modules to do to complete the qualification, but completing Module A and then validating the knowledge gained with a leader awards the Young Leader with the first badge. From then on you are officially a Young Leader. *Note that if the scout has no intention of completing any more modules and is doing Module A for the DofE award the DofE sign-off is obtained but the badge is not awarded.* When the four missions have been completed and four further badges have been earned the qualification is obtained and the Young Leader Belt is awarded. The Young Leader Belt lives with the Young Leader throughout scouting even when they become an adult leader.

The missions will be done at the beaver, cub and scout meetings where the Young Leaders help. The adult leader from the meeting that the Young Leader attends will support their Young Leaders and sign off their missions. When leaders notify me about a Young Leader (name, group, section, email) would you please confirm that you will support them and sign off their Missions when complete? When the Young Leader has a signed off mission the Leader and the Explorer must let Liz Jack know so that the central records are kept up to date.

A number of the modules are the same as the adult leaders do for their wood badge. Once the Young Leader has done those modules and the related mission you have automatically done the adult version as well. This means that Liz Jack will sign off your modules on the adult scheme when you are 18. The modules can be done in any order.

If your Young Leaders can make a meeting that is fine and if they can't that is fine as well. Just tell them to come along when they can. The modules will be a rolling programme and repeated every so often so they have about 3 years to complete the Young Leader Belt (finish when they are 18). For DofE the time limits are as described above, the proviso is that their book cannot be signed off until the relevant training has been completed.

The training modules are:

- A Prepare for Take Off – Purpose, Child Protection, POR, Risk, YL Roles
- B Taking the Lead – Leadership roles and styles, the balanced programme
- C That's the Way to Do It – Understanding how young people learn/passing on skills
- D Kids Behaving Badly – Types and cause of challenging behaviour, how to manage

Briefing Note for Leaders & Young Leaders, Missions & the Programme

- E Game On – Importance of Games, need for different types, how to run them
- F Special Needs – Understand the range of special needs and the balanced programme
- G Programme Plans – Purpose and method of scouting, balanced programme delivery
- H Program Plans Plus – Programme planning techniques, review and plan for 3 months
- I What Did they Say – Communications between leaders and young people and YL's
- J Awards and Badges – When to award badges + understand the progressive scheme
- K First Aid – Attend the First Response Course

Please note that there are no exams, no revision is needed either before or after and the only 'proving' of a skill that you do is the missions with your chosen group (validation the same as the adult training programme). This is where the work is needed as the Young Leader prepares for a meeting or activity. This means when the Young Leaders come to the training sessions they just need to bring a brain, listen and get involved in the exercises. At the end of a session they will then go off and do their Missions back at the group they assist with at the weekly or weekend meetings.

Finally, any questions – then contact me – [Liz Jack](#).