



1ST KINGS LANGLEY SCOUT GROUP

BEHAVIOUR AND ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Scout Leaders at Kings Langley aim to provide a varied and interesting programme so that all sections at Scouts have fun doing a varied range of activities that challenge, educate and engage those who take part. This can only be achieved with co-operation, respect and good behaviour so that the whole Group can enjoy their scouting.

Poor discipline and obstructive behaviour means that other members of the Group are unhappy and in certain circumstance where risk is involved, this can lead to circumstances becoming dangerous.

This is becoming more important now that the Group is growing in size and therefore a more formal behaviour policy has been introduced. Although the aim is to have fun which of course will include plenty of humour, this needs to be clearly distinguishable between constant disruptive behaviour.

Scouts in all sections will find that good behaviour will mean they will progress to become Sixers, Seconders, Assistant Patrol Leaders and Patrol Leaders more quickly, they will be more likely to be asked on trips and activities that have limited places and will be chosen for things such as standard bearing and to represent the Group across the District and County on specific activities.

Good behaviour will make scouting more enjoyable for the whole Group.

Code of Good Conduct:

Scouts in all sections should aim to keep to the following behaviour code.

1. To attend Scouts to enjoy themselves and have fun taking part in the full Scouting programme.
 2. To respect and listen to Scout Leaders, Young Leaders and fellow Scouts.
 3. To attend meetings regularly, on time and in proper uniform.
 4. To work as a team in lodges, sixes, patrols and activity groups and to make new friends in Scouts.
 5. To try to take part in every aspect of the Scouting programme with enthusiasm and optimism.
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Behaviour in the Horseshoe:

Scouts are asked to form a horseshoe at the start and end of a meeting. This is a quiet time when the leaders will formally start and finish the meeting by flag break and flag down. A nominated Scout will carry this out.

1. When asked to form a horseshoe, Scouts will line up in lodges, sixes or patrols, face the front and stand quietly at ease.
2. Scouts should listen to the leaders or to other Scouts who have been asked to speak.
3. This is a smart time when shirts will be tucked in and hats removed where relevant.
4. There should be silence during flag break and flag down.

Unacceptable Behaviour:

Whilst it is perfectly understandable that children do get noisy and excited at Scouts, they must not display continual and unacceptable behaviour. Examples of this are:

1. Continual talking or verbal disruption when a Leader has asked for quiet.
2. Continuing with unacceptable or disruptive behaviour after being directly told to stop.
3. Persistent refusal to follow instructions or the rules of a game or activity.
4. Obstructing other Scouts take part in activities or games.
5. Use of inappropriate language such as swearing, name calling or teasing.
6. Violent or aggressive behaviour or inappropriate physical behaviour.
7. Repeatedly not turning up in the specified uniform (shirt or jumper, scarf, activity trousers and appropriate footwear) for an activity or Group meeting.

Serious Misbehaviour:

If there are instances of serious misbehaviour, the Leaders reserve the right to suspend a Scout for "time-out" during a meeting, for the rest of a meeting, or for longer periods of time which may include camps and/or trips. Patrol Leaders, Assistant Patrol Leaders, Sixers and Seconders may also lose their stripes for constant misbehaviour. These instances will all be discussed with the parents and will not result in a reduction of subs.

Examples of this are:

1. Continually displaying unacceptable behaviour over a prolonged period.
 2. Bullying or unprovoked physical attack on another Scout or Leader.
 3. Deliberate defiance of clearly given instructions, particularly where safety is threatened.
 4. Threatening language or behaviour against another Scout or Leader.
 5. Seriously challenging the authority of a Leader or helper.
 6. Any behaviour that would seriously compromise the safety of any member of the Group.
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Attendance:

High levels of attendance are expected at Scouts so that children can follow through the balanced programme provided. Scouts are not encouraged to "cherry pick" certain parts of the programme. Scouts who miss large chunks of attendance miss out on many aspects of what is learned and enjoyed as well as missing the opportunity to participate in the wider programme of activities as they may not receive timely information. Where places on trips are limited, the Scout Leaders reserve the right to place high-attending Scouts first.

If your Scout is unable to attend a Scout night, could parents please inform the Leaders by phone or e-mail as soon as possible so that they are able to make any adjustments to the programme that may be required.

Attendance will be discussed with parents of Scouts who attend less than 60% in any one term to ascertain the reasons for this and although it is appreciated that it is difficult to commit to 100% attendance, there must be valid reasons for large absences. There is a very full waiting list and it is not reasonable to hold places open in the Group for Scouts that continually do not attend and who are not committed to the programme.

This policy applies to all sections of the Kings Langley Scout Group and for the purposes of this policy, the term Scout refers to Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts and Scouts.

Thank you for supporting the Leaders by agreeing to this policy whilst your child is a member of the 1st Kings Langley Scout Group and as ever, please do not hesitate to discuss any matters with any of the Leaders either on a Scout night or by phone or e-mail.



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