

BEAVERS

cubs

SCOUTS

4th Bolsover Scout Group



Scouts
4th Bolsover

Welcome Pack

Name of Scout :



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Beaver Scout Uniform & Promise

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1. Welcome

As your young person has expressed a wish to join us at 4th Bolsover, we would appreciate it if you could spend a little time to read the enclosed information. This information pack will provide you with basic information regarding Scouting and the Group.

There are also several forms that come along with this pack which are required to be completed and **returned to us within 2 weeks of your young person paying subscriptions**. The purpose and reason for these forms is explained within the pack.

2. Scouting

The Scout Movement is a voluntary, global, co-educational youth organisation, the largest in the world, with over 28 million Members in 216 countries and territories. **The Movement is mainly operated by local volunteers**. In the UK, Scouting is organised through The Scout Association which has a clear purpose:

- *To help young people achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as Members of their local, national and international communities.*

The Scout Association offers everyday (and some more unusual!) adventures and activities to almost 400,000 young people across the UK. Scouting is open to all young people aged 6 to 25 of every faith and background, as long as they are prepared to make the promise. A number of variations of the promise are available to cover a range of faiths and nationalities.

There are also plenty of opportunities for adults to become involved as Leaders, Assistants, and Administrators and as Group Supporters.

If you would like to be involved with our Scout Group, then please contact one of our Section Leaders. As a member of our Group we hope to endeavour to ensure that your child can help to make the world a better place. Scouting makes a positive contribution to society by helping young people to develop as active members of the community who:

- Are self reliant,
- Are caring,
- Are responsible,
- Show commitment.

However, most importantly this continual personal development works best when the young people are working in partnership with adults. They do this by:

- Taking part in a variety of activities and new experiences,
- Exploring the outdoors,
- Participating in teams,
- Taking responsibility,
- Taking part in a Balanced Programme

The Programme is a continuous progression of training, activities and awards that covers everything that young people do in Scouting from the age of **6 to 25**. Whilst the activities they take part in will depend on their age, each Section gives young people the opportunity to learn by doing.

The main programme areas are:

- Outdoor & Adventure
- World
- Skills

Leaders undertake training to deliver this programme, ensuring our young people stay safe while they enjoy themselves and learn.

3. The Promise & Investiture

Our Scout Group is an “Open Group” which means we are **not** affiliated to any religion and that as long as your child meets the general requirements for membership of the Scout Association they are welcome within our Group.

Once the young person has shown a commitment to the group in attending a Beaver/Cub/Scout meeting, for a minimum of 6 continuous weeks, in addition to purchasing the required uniform, they will be asked to make a promise at an **investiture** ceremony and become a member of the Scout Association. This would normally be undertaken on a normal meeting night, at the end of a half term, it could also be carried out at a special event for your child; however, as it is your child’s investiture it would only be carried out when they were ready. You, of course, would usually be more than welcome to witness this ceremony.

The promise that they make will be dependent on the section that they are joining. The general promise for each section is attached; the promise can, however, be altered in a number of ways to take into account religious beliefs; nationality and/or special needs.

In the promise your child will undertake to either “love God” or to do their “duty to God” (or their choice of deity) ***with an alternative promise now available.***

Their Leader can generally answer any questions that you or your child may have with regard to the promise.

4. Group and Sections

The Group now consists of Beaver, Cub and Scout sections.

All sections meet at the Parish Rooms, Hornscroft Road, Bolsover

- **Beavers** 6 - 8 years old Thursday 5:15pm to 6:15pm
- **Cubs** 8 - 10 ½ years old Thursday 6:30pm to 8:00pm
- **Scouts** 10 ½ - 14 years old Monday 6:30pm to 8:30pm

With all sections, there is some flexibility in age ranges.

However, please note that these are the normal meeting times. Outside of these times leaders are **not** responsible for your children and need time to set up. Therefore, **no Beaver/Cub/Scout can enter the main hall until a Leader allows, please wait outside or in the corridor.**

The Group feeds into a District Explorer Scout Unit (14 – 18), however all group members that progress to the District Explorer Unit are more than welcome to return to the Group as “Young Leaders” with any of the sections, once they have completed six months away from the section they left.

The Group can always benefit from assistance either as a Leader, helper or a member of the Group’s Executive Committee or even as an occasional specialist skills instructor, passing on skills or hobbies.

Enquiries

As time is limited during a meeting night, we would ask that if, during your young person’s time in Scouts, you have any queries about subscriptions, camps or activities, you would please complete an enquiry form at a meeting night where it will be passed to the relevant person (Eg. Treasurer, Group Scout Leader).

Alternatively, please contact the Executive Committee by email who will ensure your enquiry is dealt with: exec@4thbolsoverscouts.co.uk

5. Subscriptions

At the current time subscriptions are:-

Beavers £9.50 per month
Cubs £11.00 per month
Scouts £12.00 per month

Subscriptions are required to be paid at the beginning of the month, each month, through the Online Scout System (OSM). A payment request will come to you through email. Once you receive this request, set up the subscription and the payment will be taken every month from then on.

If you find that this is difficult please speak to our Group Scout Leader or Treasurer, so an alternative arrangement can be made.

These subscriptions cover the cost of :

- paying rent to the Church for the use of the Parish Rooms.
- paying membership fees to the Scout Association both nationally and locally, known as Capitation.
- paying for the programme expenses, craft items, badges completed in session time and other activities (there may be a small additional charge for visits and visitors)

Some other activities such as camps, will incur costs which **MUST** be paid in full by the closing date given in any letters issued. Failure to pay by this date results in your Beaver, Cub or Scout forfeiting their place and all deposits paid.

We must also state that as we have waiting lists for all our sections, **a complete or intermittent non-attendance of a half-term (with no notification to a Leader) will result in the young person's membership being revoked and their name being added to the waiting list. However, if you notify a Leader that your young person is ill, their absence will be recorded but not count towards regular non-attendance.**

Membership Fee - Investiture

A one-off payment of a £10.50 membership fee applies to all new members, which will cover the initial cost of the Scout Group neckerchief (necker), the District badge, the Group badges, and a woggle. This payment must be made through OSM payment system.



6. Trips and Activities

There are very few activities that members of The Scout Association are actually banned from doing. Consequently, if it is possible to do something, and there is a large enough request to do it, we will try to organise it. When organising trips or activities **we have to impose a cut off date for responses**. This is generally due to purchasing tickets, booking spaces, completing risk assessments and requesting parental permissions for the event. **However, until your young person has been invested and/or attended a 1 night local camp they will not be invited to attend a camp longer than 1 night.**

We also believe that no one should miss out, therefore, if at any point, paying for subscriptions or activities becomes an issue please email (gsl@4thbolsoverscouts.co.uk), the Acting Group Scout Leader, in confidence, with details and a contact number.

There are several ways to pay: -

- Pay by instalments using a card payment scheme.
- Make payments directly into the Group's bank account (please ask for further details)

7. Gift Aid

Gift Aid is a simple government initiative which allows donors to increase the value of their donations at no extra cost to them. For every pound given, charities can get an extra 25 pence from HM Revenue & Customs, helping donations go further.

So, if you are a tax payer, and you haven't done so already, please fill out a Gift Aid Form.

8. Uniform

Details of the uniform for each section and the location of badges can be found at the back of this booklet.

On a meeting night, we would normally expect your child to wear the upper part of their uniform, with combat trousers/jogging bottoms or similar and appropriate footwear, taking into consideration that we undertake a wide range of activities (which can often be messy).

For parades, presentations and representation in the community formal uniform is required. This consists of the normal upper part of their uniform with **black “school” type trousers/skirt.**

- **Beavers** Turquoise sweatshirt/hoodie or polo shirt and Group neckerchief (necker)
- **Cubs** Dark green sweatshirt/hoodie or polo shirt and Group neckerchief (necker)
- **Scouts** Teal green smart shirt/blouse and Group neckerchief (necker)

The Group neckerchief is forest green, with a maroon border, available from the Group. As the necker is included in the cost of membership, should it need replacing, there will be a small cost incurred.

9. Badge Work

Members of all ages work towards attaining awards both in their chosen activities, and are awarded badges. From Circus Skills and Street Sports to Imagination and Public Relations, there is a wide range of choice of Activity Badges for all Sections.

Hobbies that your child has can also be used to help both “activity badges” and progressive training awards.

These are generally awarded for trying new activities and doing their best at them for the younger sections whilst Scouts do have some badges that specific standards must be met. Generally, the effort needed to obtain the badge or the standard required increases as your child progresses through the sections.

In addition, there are six staged Activity Badges. These have been designed to provide a unified approach throughout the Sections.

These staged Activity Badges have several stages:

Air Activities	Community Impact	Digital Citizen
Digital Maker	Emergency Aid	Hikes Away
Musician	Nautical Skills	Navigator
Nights Away	Paddle Sports	Sailing
Swimmer	Time on the Water	

A young person can gain whichever badge is appropriate to the level they have reached. It is possible, for example, for a Beaver Scout who is an excellent swimmer to gain a higher-level badge than a Scout who has just taken up the activity.

Occasionally your child may be asked to undertake things at home to work towards badge-work or challenges being undertaken on a meeting evening.

There are “Joining In” awards which are presented with the number to indicate how many years a young person has regularly attended and participated in the balanced programme across the whole Scout Movement. Only the highest numbered badge is worn.

Each section has a number of Challenge Badges; these can either be done individually or in groups. On completion of a number of these your child can earn the relevant Chief Scouts Award, the highest award earned worn on their uniform.

- Beaver Scouts 6 Challenges - Chief Scout’s Bronze Award
- Cub Scouts 7 Challenges - Chief Scout’s Silver Award
- Scouts 9 Challenges - Chief Scout’s Gold Award

When your child is ready to move onto the next section there are “Moving On” awards for each section.

10. Child Protection (Safeguarding) and Health & Safety

The Scout Association's policies, rules, code of behaviour, advice on Child Protection (Safeguarding) and safety policy are there to ensure our young people stay safe whilst the Programme of Activities, that we provide, is fun, exciting and challenging. Most importantly we must also make sure that all activities undertaken are safe.

It is the policy of The Scout Association (and therefore of the Group) to safeguard the welfare of all Members by protecting them from physical, sexual, emotional and neglectful harm.

The Scout Association is committed to:

- Taking into account in all its considerations and activities the interests and well-being of young people;
- Respecting the rights, wishes and feelings of the young people with whom it is working;
- Taking all reasonable practicable steps to protect them from physical, sexual, emotional and neglectful abuse, and
- Promoting the welfare of young people and their protection within a relationship of trust.

All adults aged eighteen or over, no matter what their role or involvement within Scouting, are responsible for putting this policy into practice at all times. All Leaders and adults, involved in helping, have been subjected to, and passed, the Disclosure and Barring Service checks (formerly CRB).

In addition, there is always a First Aider present at all meetings. However, accidents occasionally can happen and in order to comply with The Scout Association's own health and safety policies we require certain information regarding emergency contacts (next of kin, emergency contact numbers etc.).

If this information changes e.g. change of address or phone number, please let us know. A general information contact form is also required to be completed.

Further information and consent forms may be required for specific activities.

The Group accepts members with Special Educational Needs and is required to know of any special requirements, 1:1 support, allergies etc that your child may require or have.

All information provided is kept confidential and it is normal for us to ask for a new form to be filled in when your child moves sections to ensure that we have up to date information.

11. Behaviour Policy

All Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are expected to be polite, considerate and respectful to others, to take turns, share, play fairly, be quiet when others are speaking, and to take care of the equipment provided. Fighting, kicking, shouting, teasing, bad language, hitting and pushing are not acceptable and inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated.

Minor incidents will be dealt with by a verbal warning and/or sitting out of a game or activity for a short period. 4th Bolsover Scout Group has, though only on rare occasions, a yellow and red card system to deal with any inappropriate behaviour. If a Beaver, Cub or Scout cause significant physical or emotional harm to another then they will receive a card. For more serious incidents, if 2 Yellow cards are presented in an evening, then a Red card will follow.

If a Red card is presented they will be asked to not attend the following week's meeting. If 2 Red cards are presented in a term they will be asked to leave the group.

Parents will be informed of all yellow and red card incidents. The support and cooperation of all parents in reinforcing these rules will ensure that our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts can enjoy and benefit from all our activities.

11. Data protection

Looking after the information we hold about our young people.

If we handle and store information about identifiable, living people we are legally obliged to protect that information. Under the Data Protection Act, we must:

- only collect information that we need for a specific purpose;
- keep it secure;
- ensure it is relevant and up to date;
- only hold as much as we need, and only for as long as we need it; and
- allow the subject of the information to see it on request.

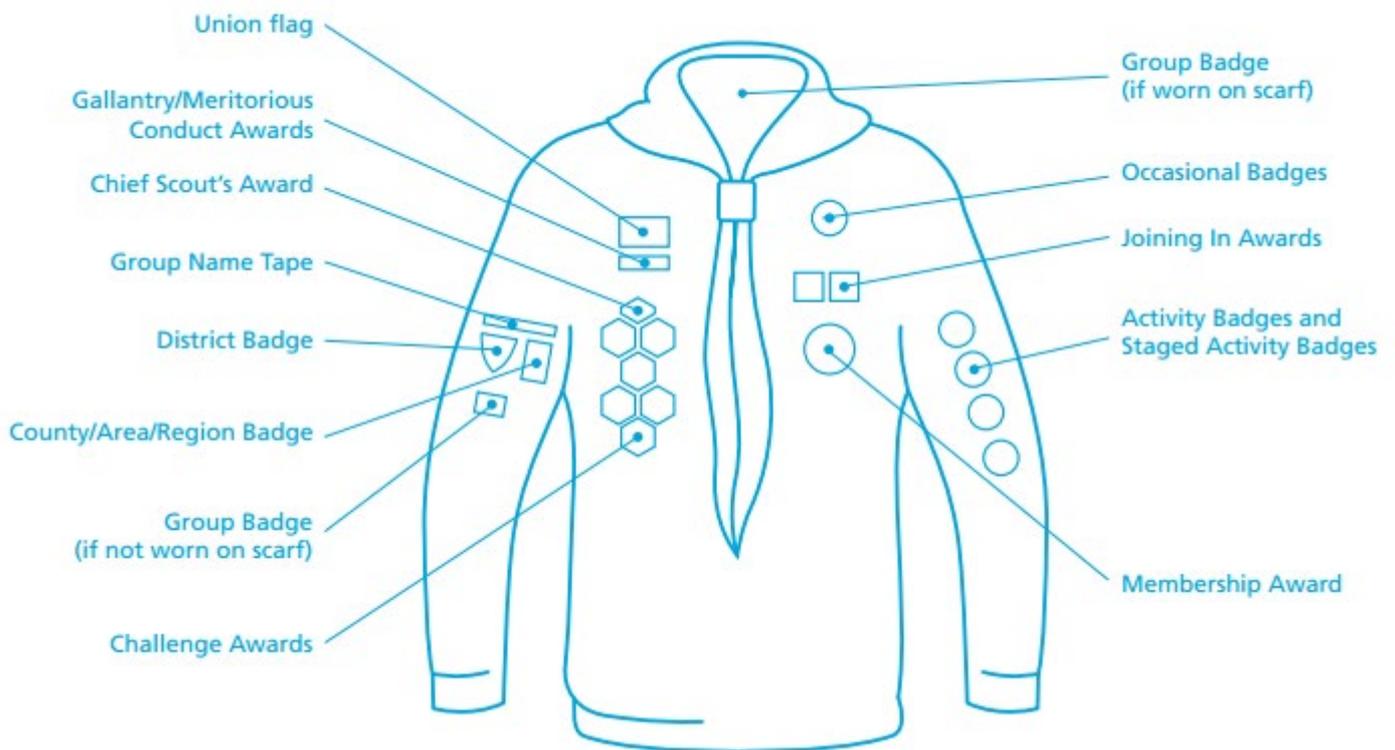
12. Further Information

Further details regarding the uniform, badge requirements and other sectional information can be found on the Internet at www.scouts.org.uk. and on the following pages of this booklet.

Beaver Scouts Uniform and Promise

The Beaver Scout Promise

I promise to do my best
To be kind and helpful
And to love God.



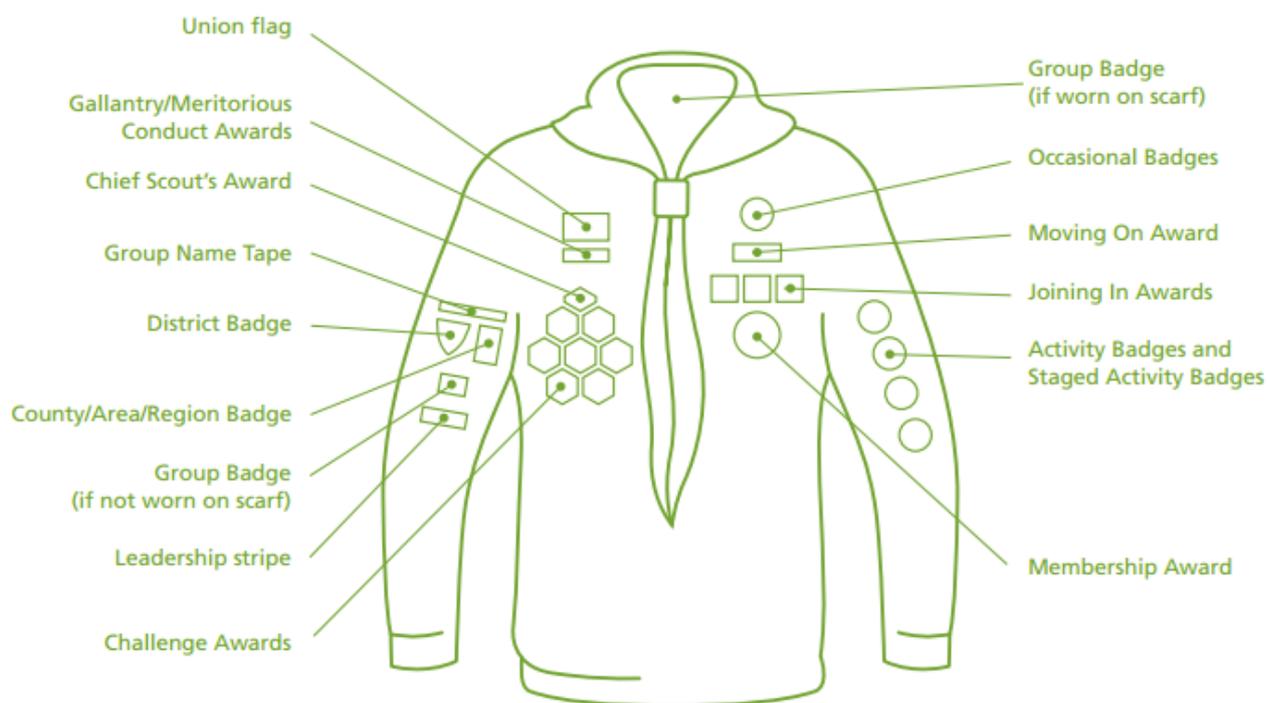
Cub Scouts Uniform, Promise and Law

The Cub Scout Promise

I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to God and to the Queen,
To help other people
And to keep the Cub Scout Law

The Cub Scout Law

Cub Scouts always do their best
Think of others before themselves
And do a good turn every day



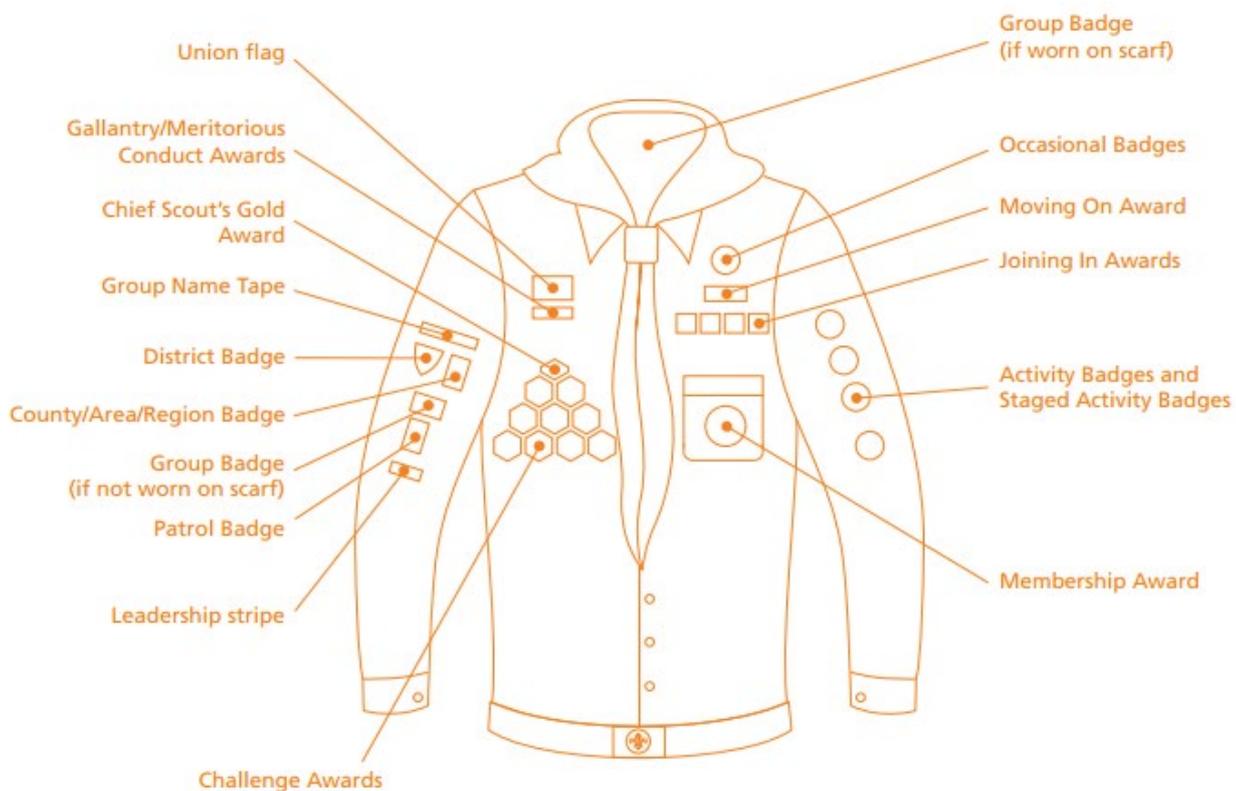
Scouts Uniform, Promise and Law

The Scout Promise

On my honour, I promise that I will do my best,
To do my duty to God and to The Queen,
To help other people,
And to keep the Scout Law

The Scout Law

- 1) A Scout is to be trusted.
- 2) A Scout is loyal.
- 3) A Scout is friendly and considerate.
- 4) A Scout belongs to the worldwide family of Scouts.
- 5) A Scout has courage in all difficulties.
- 6) A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property.
- 7) A Scout has self-respect and respect for others.



Group Contacts

Group Scout Leader

Name: Keith Sayer
Email: gsl@4thbolsoverscouts.co.uk

Beaver Scout Leader

Name: Alison Ford
Contact Number: 07974 734318
Email: beavers@4thbolsoverscouts.co.uk

Cub Scout Leaders

Name: Sarah Page and Andrew Page
Email: cubs@4thbolsoverscouts.co.uk

Scout Leader

Name: Stuart Layzell
Email: scouts@4thbolsoverscouts.co.uk

(Any group specific queries please send to the Group Scout Leader)

Generic Scouting Information

<http://www.scouts.org.uk>

www.4thbolsoverscouts.co.uk