

# GUIDE TO THE YOUNG LEADER SCHEME



**NAME:** .....

**GROUP:** .....

**SECTION:** .....

**Chester and District Scout Council**  
Praetorians Young Leader Explorer Scout Unit



## Welcome

Welcome to Chester & District Scouts Young Leaders Guide. Within this booklet we hope to dispel some of the myths surrounding Young Leaders and provide you with the necessary practical information to ensure you get the best out of Explorer Scouting

Becoming a Young Leader is an opportunity for young people aged between 14 and 18 years old who wish to help at a Beaver Colony, Cub Pack or Scout Troop. The reasons for this are many, but include Duke of Edinburgh Award Service or wanting to keep involved with their Group where they were as a Beaver, Cub or Scout.

Whatever your motivation is to become a Young Leader you **MUST** be registered with the District Explorer Scout Young Leader Unit. Being a Young Leader is a rewarding and enjoyable role for any young person within a Scout Group but it is essential that you are aware of the rules that are in place to safeguard the well-being of all young people and adults. This guide has been produced to help you to make an informed decision about your options.

On registering with the unit all Young Leaders must complete Module A. On completion of this module the Young Leader will be provided with a record card. This card must be carried at all times so that your eligibility to be at any event can be verified.

If you have any queries not dealt with in this booklet please feel free to contact us.

## Introduction to the Young Leader Scheme

One of the unique features of Explorer Scouting is in the ability to provide Scouting to young people in a flexible way so that they get what they want out of Scouting. This methodology has allowed Explorer Scouting to develop in three different ways:

- 1 Explorer Scouts
2. Explorer Scouts/Young Leaders
3. Young Leaders

In reality all of the above are classed as Explorer Scouts and are aged 14-18 but they develop and adapt Explorer Scouting in three distinct ways.

Your average Explorer Scout meets weekly as part of an Explorer Scout Unit and participates in an

active Scouting programme just like any other section of the movement.

Your Explorer Scout / Young Leader is part of an Explorer Scout Unit, participates in their programme but also helps out in a Young Leader role in another section or Group.

Finally you have Young Leaders, these are young people who just want to help out in a Young Leader role in a Group without being tied into the main Explorer Scout programme or meeting on a weekly basis.

It's worth taking a little time to explain the subtle difference between Explorer Scouts/Young Leaders and just Young Leaders. Explorer Scouts/Young Leaders are registered with and invested in a standard Explorer Scout Unit. This means they get the best of both worlds. However you must still actively participate in the Young Leader training programme. You must also be registered with the District Young Leader Explorer Scout Unit.

Young Leaders alone are slightly different. Each District has to make provision for Young Leaders in the form of a Young Leader Explorer Scout Unit and provide them access to the Young Leader Training Scheme. Every Young Leader needs to be registered with and invested in the Young Leader Explorer Scout Unit.

## Role of The District Young Leader Explorer Scout Unit

The role of this Unit is to ensure that all young people operating in a Young Leader capacity have a balanced and enjoyable experience during their time in this role. This is achieved in the following way:

1. Ensuring access to the main Explorer programme should they want to attend the odd activity.
2. Providing access to the Young Leader training programme
3. The support and help a young person may need if they start to run into problems
4. A formal platform for them to be registered on the census
5. Ensuring that all Young Leaders are acting in accordance with the rules and are not being placed in a situation which may put them or

members of the section they are working with in jeopardy

## How the Young Leader Scheme Works

The Young Leader scheme consists of a number of Modules and Missions. Module A covers child protection issues in relation to the Young Leader scheme and must be completed within three months of commencing work within a section. Completion of Module A entitles you to wear the Young Leader badge. This confirms that you have undertaken the necessary training and are registered with the Young Leader Unit.



The other modules are designed to be undertaken throughout a Young Leaders time with the unit. These modules cover aspects of programming and other issues relevant to a leadership role.

The missions are projects which should be completed by the Young Leader on an annual basis. For each mission you are awarded an additional badge which is worn around the Young Leader badge.

On completion of all the modules and missions you are awarded a special belt buckle in recognition of your achievement.

## Safety and Protection of Young Leaders

As a Young Leader you must not be left unattended with members of the section with which you are helping at any time. Your role is to assist the leadership team in the running of the section and help supervise activities and not to act as a member of the section. You may, under the guidance of the leadership team take part in planning and programming as appropriate and are encouraged to do so.

As a Young Leader you may assist on overnight activities but must not be left unattended and must have separate sleeping arrangements from the members of the Section and the Adult Leadership team. You may only be given an event passport by the ESL (YL) or your unit ESL for an activity involving only other Explorer Scouts or Young Leaders

You must ensure that your actions are appropriate to the section with which you are helping and must not jeopardise the safety of all young people involved. Any Young Leader found to be acting inappropriately will be removed from the Young Leaders Scheme.

Any Young Leader assisting in an out of district or overnight activity must be notified to the ESL (YL) prior to the activity.

A Young Leader must ensure that their actions are appropriate to the section which they are helping and must not jeopardise the safety of any young people involved. Any Young Leader found to be acting inappropriately will be removed from the Young Leader Scheme.

Any Young Leader assisting in an out of District or overnight activity must be notified to the ESL (YL) prior to the activity taking place.

## Duke of Edinburgh's Award Requirements

Any young person undertaking their service section of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award has to fulfil the following requirements. This applies even if they are not members of the Scout Association.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award web site says:

### *What is it?*

The opportunity to assist the adult Leadership with the provision of a Balanced Programme for young people aged between 6-18 years old, i.e.. Beaver Scout, Cub Scout, Scout or Explorer Scout Sections.

### *Safety Message*

All activities must be carried out with reference to appropriate National Governing Body guidelines and the Rules of The Scout Association.

### *Ideas/Aims*

The purpose of Scouting is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The Scout Method provides an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law, which is guided by adult leadership. In practice the method is best seen when young people, in partnership with adults, are:

- enjoying what they are doing;
- learning by doing;
- participating in varied and progressive activities;
- making choices for themselves;
- taking responsibility for their own actions;
- working in groups;
- taking increasing responsibility for others;
- taking part in activities outdoors;
- sharing in prayer and worship;
- making and living out their Promise

3) Sponsorship (fully funded) by a Scout Group or other organisation (e.g.. Duke of Edinburgh's Award group).

### Meetings for Young Leaders

This is on a rotational basis throughout each month. Please check the District web site for details ([www.chesterscouts.org.uk](http://www.chesterscouts.org.uk)). Reminder e-mails will be sent to registered Young Leaders

### Training Days for Young Leaders

The dates for training will be published regularly and will run over two residential weekend camps and three one day sessions for Module A - Tools for the Job - and Module K - First Aid. Check the web site and please make sure that you let the course organiser know that you are going in plenty of time.

### Recommended Further Information - Fact Sheets from the Scout Information Centre

FS 155059 YL Info for Beaver Leaders  
FS 155060 Working with YL in your Colony

FS 170059 YL info For Cub Leaders  
FS 170060 Working with YL in your Pack

FS 315092 YL Info For Scout Leaders  
FS 315093 Working with YL in your Troop

FS 452010 Explorer Scout Structures

### Local Explorer Scouting Contacts

Please check the District Directory (downloadable from the District web site)

### Young Leader provision in Chester and District Praetorians Young Leader Unit

Simon Ashton  
Telephone 0151 339 4759  
E-mail [simon@laserphysics.co.uk](mailto:simon@laserphysics.co.uk)

Training

	Under 18	Over 18
<b>BRONZE</b>	Module A of the Young Leaders Scheme + 2 other modules.	Getting started modules + 2 other modules relevant to your role
<b>SILVER</b>	Module A of the Young Leaders Scheme + 3 other modules.	Getting started modules + 4 other modules relevant to your role
<b>GOLD</b>	Module A of the Young Leaders Scheme + 5 other modules.	Getting started modules + 6 other modules relevant to your role
	Please state in the Record Book the name of the modules completed	

### Review/Assessment

This will be carried out by the District Explorer Scout Commissioner for those aged under 18, and by the County Training Manager or the Local Training Manager for those aged over 18. The participant should use the review as an opportunity to reflect on what they have gained from their experiences. Only the District Explorer Scout Commissioner in conjunction with the ESL (YL) may sign off Duke of Edinburgh's Award record books for the service section.

### Funding

There are three ways for the membership fees and subs to be collected:

- 1) Membership fees can be paid for by the Young Leader direct to the Young Leader Unit
- 2) Subs can be paid in one of three routes as follows:
  - a. At the meeting they are attending
  - b. Term by term basis to the YL Unit treasurer
  - c. Annually to cover the costs of activities

© Chester and District Scout Council, April 2009

