

Welcome to...



3rd Edgware

cubs

This booklet contains the following...

Introduction to the Scouting Movement

Information about our Pack and Group

The requirements and costs involved in joining

Where to get the uniform and badges

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Introduction...

The purpose of this booklet is to help you decide if Cubs and specifically 3rd Edgware Cubs is right for your child. Once you have decided it should also provide the information you need to get you and your child ready to join the pack.

Please do take the time to go through it in full and hopefully it will shed some light as to what Scouting is all about and how it works.

If you have questions after reading please do email or call me and I will be happy to help answer your questions.

About Scouting

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

The Method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law, and guided by adult leadership."

This is the mission statement of the Scouting Association. The movement is the largest youth movement in the world with over 25 million members. In the UK there are currently about half a million Scouts.

The country is divided into Counties and each County is divided up into Districts. As London has so many Districts there are actually 6 Counties that make up the London area—we are a member of the **Greater London North (GLN) County** and are in the **Borough of Barnet District**.

The County and the District are vital for training and resources, administration and they also organise activities on a larger scale than single groups can. We attend as many of these events as we can through the year.

Cub Scouts should be aged from 8 years old to 10½. In some cases we can take children from age 7½, but not before.

About 3rd Edgware / EDRS

Our Scout Group currently has a Cub Pack, and we feed a local Scout Troop. At one point we also had a Beaver Colony, second Cub Pack and a Venture Scout Unit. Although we are somewhat smaller now we still offer a very wide range of exciting and varied challenges to our young people.

The group is a Jewish Group and is affiliated to and sponsored by Edgware and District Reform Synagogue (EDRS). EDRS allows us to use the building as a meeting place and for equipment storage. The synagogue does not charge us for this privilege and as such we do not have the costs of running a headquarters.

What does being a Jewish group mean? Well firstly target Jewish young people to join our group. We accept any young person who wants to join the Pack, but they must be happy to accept that Judaism is part of our programme. If you would like to find a mixed faith group then please let me know and we can help with this. We observe kashrut laws—both in our meetings and at camp. If events are organised by the District or County on a Shabbat then we do not offer it. At camp we will have a short Kiddush on a Friday and then a service on Saturday mornings. Although we do try to keep most activities for after Shabbat—our Group will use fire and electricity on Shabbat at Camp. If this is not acceptable to you then we can either help find your child another Group—or you could not send them to Camps with us. We are a member of the National Jewish Scouting Fellowship (NJSF) and will attend events and camps organised by them.

Every Scout Group must have an Executive Committee with a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer as well as a parent representative from each section (i.e. The Cub Pack and Scout Troop). Although we do honour this, the executive has not had cause to meet for many years.

Child Safety / Protection

This area is one of great importance throughout the movement. The safety of our young people is paramount to us. All leaders and helpers must get an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check done when they start and are rechecked regularly.

The warranted leaders will have undergone compulsory training before their warrant was issued and this include first response (a basic first aid) and child protection training. There is also an extensive training scheme that leaders are encouraged to complete.

As part of our continued efforts to protect our members it may be necessary to ask for parents to volunteer to help with security—we would ask for your co-operation in this matter. We also insist that you bring your child into the meeting and collect them from the hall at the end of the night.

What does it Cost?

Firstly—cost should not stop anyone from enjoying Scouting. If you have financial difficulties please contact me in confidence as we have various funds available to help.

When you join the Pack there is a £10 fee. This covers the scarf and badges, as well as the book and certificate.

Each week Cubs must bring £1 subscription with them. This will cover materials used during the activities.

We also charge an annual Family Membership fee of around £50 (it varies by year). This covers the insurance and capitation paid to the Scout Association and what remains is put into to group funds to cover equipment.

About Cubs

Our meetings are held weekly on a Thursday night. We look for regular attendance as we work on projects from week to week.

Our Pack (and Scout Troop) is mixed sex as we believe that girls can benefit just as much from Scouting as boys can.

In Cub Packs the leaders take on names of characters from the Jungle Book. As such I am known by Akela who was the head of the wolf pack.

The Cubs are split into groups called Sixes. Each group will have a Sixer and Secondar which are the older Cubs who help show the younger Cubs what they should be doing.

A typical weekly meeting will look something like this:

6.45 OPEN

6.50 Inspection

7.00 Games

7.20 Activity (skills / creativity)

7.35 Game

7.45 Badgework

8.00 Game

8.15 CLOSE

As you can see we do spend a lot of time on badgework and developing skills and knowledge. This is what makes Scouting stand apart from other youth groups.

We do go camping at least once a year in tents. We also try to do one indoor camp (Pack Holiday) each year.

I'm Ready! What next...?

Once you have decided that your child is ready to join the Pack they will need to be invested. This is a short ceremony that will normally be held in the last 10 minutes of a meeting.

To be invested a new Cub must know both their Law and Promise...

The Cub Scout Law is:

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

The Cub Scout Promise is:

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 new Cub will be brought up to the front by his or her sixer and then will make the promise in front of the Pack. Once this is done they will be presented with their group scarf, badges and a certificate.

The Cub will need to have their uniform ready for the evening of the investiture. The uniform is as follows:

- Cub Sweatshirt*
- Long Navy Trousers (NOT jeans)
- Dark colours trainers and socks

The sweatshirt (and activity trousers if you wish) are available from the following places:

John Lewis, Brent Cross/Watford - children's wear department

Jackie's - 195 Kenton Road, Kenton - Tel: 8909 1105

National Schoolwear Centre - 45 High Street, Bushey - Tel: 8421 9488

Scout Shops Online - <http://www.scoutshops.com/>

Summary and reminders...

Hopefully now most of your questions have been answered. If not my contact details are on the front of this booklet.

There is also an introduction form with this booklet that I would ask that you please return even if your child may not join the Pack whilst they attend to try it out. This means that we will have all the information we need should an emergency arise.

As a helpful reminder here is a quick cheat sheet:

- A Cub **MUST** be at least 8 years old
- Cubs meet on Thursdays at 6:45 until 8:15
- Cubs should bring £1 with them each week
- Once your child is ready to join they will need to get the uniform
- We provide the badges and group scarf when they are invested
- Cub leaders are named after Jungle Book characters
- Cubs work to get badges
- Parents must come up to the hall to collect their children

The Scout motto is "Be Prepared" and our aim is to provide your child with a safe environment to learn new skills, make friends and ultimately be more prepared for life.



The membership badge that all Scouts around the globe wear