Scouts
91st Bristol Scout Group

Young Persons Behaviour Policy

Audience

- Young People: Beavers, Cubs, Scouts
- Parents of Young People
- Young Leaders
- Adult Volunteers: Group and Section Team Leaders, Members and Helpers

Introduction

The Scouting movement is a structured, uniformed, membership association whose purpose is to actively engage and support Young People in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. Scouting should be a fun, rewarding, educational and above all a safe experience for all involved – Young People, Young Leaders and Adult Volunteers alike.

To allow this to happen, we (the 91st Bristol Scout Group) expect a certain level of behaviour from all of our Young People.

This document sets out a Behaviour Policy which we expect all our Young People to follow, and the consequences of failing to do this. The aim is to ensure that poor behaviour does not compromise safety, our ability to deliver a good programme, and that all members of the Group are treated with respect.

We understand that some Young People may have additional needs, or medical conditions which may affect their behaviour. To support our Young People as best we can, we need to know this information in advance. We therefore ask Parents of our Young People to share all such necessary information using Online Scout Manager and we welcome a follow-up conversation between the Parents of our Young People and our Adult Volunteers – who may need to ask Parents to help us meet these needs.

Behaviour Expectations

The essence of Scouting in embodied in Scouting Values, Laws, and the Promises all members make when they join each section of the movement.

These are all set out in the Scout Association's Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR §1), and repeated below as they describe the behaviour we expect from our Young People.

Our Scout Values

POR §1.2

Integrity: We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

Respect: We have self-respect and respect for others.

Care: We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

Belief: We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

Co-operation: We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

The Section Laws

Beavers

POR §1.10

There is no formal Beaver Scout Law.

The concepts expressed in the Scout Law are presented to Beaver Scouts through games, storytelling and other informal activities.

Cubs

POR §1.8

Cub Scouts always do their best,
think of others before themselves
and do a good turn every day.

Scouts

POR §1.6

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 world-wide 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.

The Section Promises

Beavers

POR §1.9

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

Cubs

POR §1.7

I promise that I will do my best
to do my duty to God and to The King,
to help other people
and to keep the Cub Scout Law.

Scouts

POR §1.5

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

The standard Promise for each section is shown above. Variations with alternative wording that reflect different faiths and beliefs are also available on the Scout Association website – see the POR links above.

Poor Behaviour Procedure

A Young Person whose behaviour does not follow the Scout Values or their Section's Law and Promise can expect to be subject to a Poor Behaviour Procedure; starting with a simple verbal warning with a graduated escalation to ultimately being asked to leave the Group. The process is intended to be simple, transparent and to allow Young People, Parents and Adult Volunteers to all be treated fairly and consistently.

Verbal Warning

- × Minor behaviour that does not reflect the Scout Values, Section Law or Section Promise.

An Adult Volunteer will remind the Young Person of the behaviour expected from them. The Young Person may be removed from the current activity to allow them time to reflect on their behaviour.

Yellow Card

- × Multiple Verbal Warnings.
- × Behaviour contrary to the Scout Values, Section Law or Section Promise.
- A Yellow Card expires at the end of the evening/event it was issued.
- Two Yellow Cards in the same evening/event will result in an immediate Red Card.

The Young Person will be removed from the current activity and asked to reflect on their behaviour before being allowed to rejoin the activity. Parents may be asked to discuss the Young Person's behaviour at the end of the meeting/event.

Red Card

- × Two Yellow Cards in the same evening/event.
- × Serious breaches of the Scout Values, Section Law or Section Promise.
- A Red Card expires at the end of the term in which it was issued
- Two Red Cards in a term will result in a Review.

The Young Person will be asked to sit out. Parents will be called immediately to discuss the Young Person's behaviour and the Young Person sent home. The Young Person will miss the next meeting/event.

Review

- × Two Red Cards in a term.
- × Risk to life or significant harm.

A discussion between the Young Person, their Parents, the section's Adult Volunteer Leaders and the Group Lead Volunteer to review behaviours and their consequences. The Review will conclude with a decision: if the Young Person should leave the Group, or agreement of conditions to allow the Young Person to stay. Any subsequent suspension or ending of membership will follow POR §3.7, §3.8, §3.9.

Example poor behaviours might include:

- × Betraying trust by ignoring instruction that: wastes time (Verbal Warning), disrupts an activity for the rest of the group (Yellow Card), or causes a serious safety risk to themselves or others (Red Card).
- × Lack of respect by: talking over others (Verbal Warning), insulting or abusing others (Yellow Card), or maliciously causing damage to property (Red Card).