

Keeping young people safe

It's everyone's responsibility

All adults in Scouts follow our code of behaviour

- Do** remember that you are a role model at ALL times, inside and outside Scouting. Set a good example for others to follow
- Do** treat everyone with dignity and respect in line with the Scouting Values
- Do** treat all young people equally - do not show favouritism
- Do** follow the adult-to-young person ratios at all times
- Do** remember that you have been placed in a position of trust - do not abuse this
- Do** report all allegations, suspicions and concerns immediately
- Do** remember that someone may misinterpret your actions
- Do** respect a young person's right to personal privacy
- Do** act within appropriate boundaries, even in difficult circumstances
- Do** encourage an open and transparent culture, where people can challenge inappropriate attitudes or behaviours
- Do** make everyone (young people, parents and carers, Young Leaders and other helpers) aware of our safeguarding arrangements and share our Yellow Card - our Code of Behaviour
- Do** create an environment where young people feel safe to voice their concerns
- Do** have separate sleeping accommodation for young people, adults and Young Leaders working with a younger section
- Do** plan activities that involve more than one other person being present, or at least within sight and hearing of others

- Do not** plan to be alone with a young person
- Do not** drink alcohol when you are directly responsible for young people and never allow young people on Scouting activities to drink alcohol
- Do not** trivialise abuse or let it go unreported
- Do not** join in physical contact games with young people
- Do not** overstep the boundaries between yourself and young people by engaging in friendships or sexual relationships
- Do not** allow activities that encourage bullying behaviour including initiation ceremonies, dares or forfeits
- Do not** use inappropriate, suggestive or threatening language, whether verbal, written or online
- Do not** rely on your reputation or position to protect you

If a young person is at immediate risk of harm call the police on **999** and then tell your Group Scout Leader or District Commissioner.

Young people

We want everyone in Scouts to be safe and happy. If an adult has made you feel bad or uncomfortable, either inside or outside of Scouts, please tell a leader or your parents/carer. We will listen to you and take you seriously.

Parents

If you are worried about a young person, or if you have concerns about an adult involved in Scouts, please tell a Leader or District Commissioner immediately.

If you are unsure what to do, contact:

- Scout Information Centre
0345 300 1818
- Safeguarding Team
safeguarding@scouts.org.uk
- NSPCC
0808 800 5000
help@nspcc.org.uk.