



1st York Poppleton Scout Group Admissions Policy.

Scouting in our area is very popular, and we have a substantial waiting list, which means we can't always offer a place to potential members.

Our sections leaders provide experiences that the young people enjoy and so very few young people leave the group before they are 14 years old when they then move on to a District Explorer Unit.

To try to be transparent and open, we have defined the criteria of how we offer places to young people.

We operate within the equal opportunities policy of the Scout Association and welcome all young people, aged from 6 to 14 years, subject to spaces being available and the section having sufficient adults to run. The safety and well-being of all young people is of utmost importance and if a member has special needs then their membership will be dependent upon the support which they require in order to enjoy Scouting fully and safety provided for them.

Definitions

The Group - A Scout Group has three age related sections: Beavers (6 to 8 years), Cubs (8 to 10.5 years) and Scouts (10.5 to 14 years.) This group has one of each section

The District – A Scout District is a geographical area encompassing all the groups in that area. Our group is part of Ebor District.

Getting onto the waiting list:

To be added to our list, please send a message via our website. You may also want to consider submitting your name to the national website. This will ensure other local groups are notified too.

Single waiting list

We operate a single waiting list for the Group. Minimum and maximum ages We accept requests for places in our Group on behalf of young people who have reached their fourth birthday but do not normally accept requests for children who are over 13 years old.

Selection criteria

When selecting young people from our waiting list, we consider the following:

1. Young people with a parent or carer who is already a leader within the group: Ultimately the Group would not exist without volunteers. Young people whose parents are already leaders in the group are guaranteed a place.
NB This also includes Executive or Building Committee member; it does not include a parent helper.



2. Existing members of Poppleton Scout Group: Young people who are already a member of the Group, moving up to the next section, i.e. Beavers to Cubs, Cubs to Scouts.

3. Time on waiting list. We use the time that a young persons name has been on our waiting list in conjunction with the other criteria.

4. Local area: We don't have a fixed area, but generally we think it's fairest on everyone if we give priority to new members who live in the surrounding area of the Group's base of within the parish's of Upper and Nether Poppleton or attend the local schools.

5. People moving into Nether and Upper Poppleton:

Moving in to the area

We do accept transfer requests from people who have been members outside the District. However, we do not guarantee places but we will make reasonable efforts to accommodate newcomers.

Transfer requests from local Scout Groups:

We will not normally accept requests for transfer, as our waiting list is already extensive. In exceptional circumstances and in consultation with the District Commissioner, who 'looks after' all groups in the area, we may add the child to our waiting list.

6. Other circumstances

There may be exceptional circumstances that mean a young person should be offered a place. In such circumstances, the GSL will exercise discretion as whether to offer a place.

Offer of a place:

The Group welcomes new members at the start of term in September and again in January.

Most new members join the Beaver Section in September after their sixth birthday or if their birthday falls between April and August.

Intake January occurs if their sixth birthday is between September and January and in April if their birthday falls between January and March.

We will contact by email the named parent on the waiting list with an offer of a place a minimum of three weeks before in the start of the term.

We will allocate a place in the appropriate section and will not normally accede to specific requests.

If a place declined or the offer not acknowledged within two weeks, the place will be offered to another young person on the waiting list



Parents' responsibilities:

Parents are responsible for keeping us informed of changes to contact details, especially email.

Second opinion

If you feel your application has not been treated fairly, you are welcome to send us a message, addressed to the Group Scout Leader who will make the ultimate decision about Group Membership.

<http://www.poppletonscouts.co.uk/contact-us/>