



1st Meadow Covert Scout Group

Welcome Pack



Welcome

1st Meadow Covert Scout Group provides adventure, fun and Skills for Life for girls and boys aged between 4 and 14 from Edwalton, Gamston and West Bridgford. We have around 75 young people belonging to our group which is made up of a Squirrels grey, Beavers colony, a Cub pack and a Scout troop, all supported by around 20 adult volunteers.

Safeguarding and safety

At the heart of all we do is safeguarding and safety of our members, both young and adult. If at any time you have any concerns regarding this, please initially talk to the leaders of your child's section.

Sections

Squirrel Scouts: 4 – 6 Years

The programme at Squirrels is about growing and learning through a wide range of different games and activities. The Drey is not currently operating due to Leader numbers.

Beaver Scouts: 6 - 8 Years

We meet weekly on a **Monday evening from 6.15pm to 7.15pm** to take part in a wide range of activities including games, crafts, singing, visits and good turns, along with plenty of outdoor activities. We also have the opportunity to take part in the fun and excitement of camps and sleepovers. It may be the first time they spend a night away from home, so it's a real adventure for them

Cub Scouts: 8 – 10½ Years

Our Cub Scout Pack is split into smaller groups called Sixes and meets on a **Friday evening from 6.15pm until 7.45pm**. Cubs take part in a wide range of activities designed to be interesting and challenging. Our Cub Scout meetings consist of games and activities with plenty of time spent outdoors. Camps and holidays are some of the most memorable events of the year for Cubs.

Scouts: 10½ - 14 Years

Our Scout Troop consists of small units of six to eight Scouts called a Patrol, led by Patrol Leaders. We meet on a **Monday evening from 7.30pm until 9pm**. Outdoor activities feature prominently, with the highlight being camping. Throughout the year, Scouts learn various skills, such as map reading, camp cooking and first aid in preparation for camp.

Joining us

If you would like a place at 1st Meadow Covert Scout Group, please email our waiting list at wbscouts.joining2@gmail.com

Where we meet

Our meeting place is the Scout Hut on Alford Road, Edwalton, next to the Meadow Covert pub. The postcode is NG12 4AU.

Here is a link on Google Maps <https://goo.gl/maps/ECN5EucnFN88UApE9>

If you use What3Words the hut is at <https://w3w.co/homes.king.pencil>

Hall hire

To enquire about hiring our hall for your own event, please send an email to hallbookings@meadowcovertscouts.org.uk.

Our leaders

	Leaders	Contact email for leaders
Squirrels		scouts@meadowcovertscouts.org.uk
Beavers	Clare, Mike, Dan, Ben, Sruthi, Henna, Harry	beavers@meadowcovertscouts.org.uk
Cubs	David, Lou, Nick, Claire, Layla, Colin	cubs@meadowcovertscouts.org.uk
Scouts	Alan, Grant, Jane, Tim, Fraser, Andy	scouts@meadowcovertscouts.org.uk
Group	Graham White – Group Scout Leader	graham.aj.white@btinternet.com

Hollygate Campsite

Some meetings may take place at [Hollygate Campsite](#). This is on Hollygate Lane, Cotgrave.

From Nottingham, take the A52 towards Grantham and turn right at the traffic lights towards Cotgrave, stay on this road and take the third road on the right (Hollygate Lane), the campsite is 400m on the right.

The campsite does not have a postcode, but the nearest house is NG12 3SH.

On Google Maps search for "[Hollygate Scout Camp](#)".

If you use What3Words the site entrance is at <https://w3w.co/shepherds.allergy.dared>

Online Scout Manager (OSM)

OSM is the online tool that we use for section and group administration. In here we store contact details, session plans, badge records and basically everything we need to run our scout group.

OSM has a parent portal which your section leader will send you a link to login. Once logged in there is a self-service area for updating contact details and any other information we might need to know, plus you can see your child's badge progress, the programme and events that are planned.

We particularly do need to know, in confidence, of any health information regarding your child so we can better understand any needs they have – if we don't know we cannot make allowances!

We also send e-mail communications from OSM so please check your junk mail folder in case they don't come directly into your in-box to begin with.

Here is the link you need to sign into OSM: - <https://www.onlinescoutmanager.co.uk/>

Subscriptions

The cost of Scouting membership with 1st Meadow Covert is £55 per person per term (as at September 2024). It is the same whether a Squirrel, a Beaver, a Cub or a Scout.

Subscriptions are collected through OSM at the start of each term.

Trips, camps and external activities are usually charged separately with advance notice. We don't want young people to miss out through financial hardship. If concerns about finances may prevent your child taking part in some activities, then please have a quiet chat with one of the Leaders. It is our policy never to exclude any young person from any activity because of cost.

Gift Aid

Gift Aid is a simple government initiative which allows donors to increase the value of their donations at no extra cost to them. For every pound given, charities can get an extra 25 pence from HM Revenue & Customs, helping donations go further.

Please complete the Gift Aid declaration on OSM to help us increase our income at no cost to you.

Photographs

We have a [closed Facebook group](#) so that parents and carers can keep updated with news and pictures of the exciting events the scouts have done and any future events that are being planned. Occasionally we may use photographs in local newspapers or similar to promote the group. We would request that you consider allowing us to use media content featuring your child, though we do understand that for personal or child protection reasons you may not wish your child to appear in pictures we publish.

Please complete the photo consents section on the member's personal details record on OSM. You may change your permission at any time on OSM. If material is inadvertently published without parental/carers permission, we will remove it as quickly as possible after it is brought to our attention.

We welcome your help!

All our leaders are volunteers. The more adult help we get, the more we can offer to our young people. From time to time, we may ask parents/carers to help out. Please consider how you can support us – it's rewarding, enjoyable and fun for adults as well!

As an adult helper you will be asked to assist with games and craft activities and support the young people to participate in activities. You will be guided by our Leaders and will be a valuable part of the team.

Please speak to one of the leaders if you are interested in helping as a regular leader.

Uniform & Scout Shop

During meetings we expect your child to attend in uniform 'from the waist up'.

- **Beavers** - Red sweatshirt and Group neckerchief
- **Beavers** - Turquoise sweatshirt and Group neckerchief
- **Cub Scouts** - Dark green sweatshirt and Group neckerchief
- **Scouts** - Teal green smart shirt, Scout belt and Group neckerchief

For events where the full uniform is required, Scout activity trousers or dark grey / black 'school' type trousers / skirt would be more than adequate. Kit lists and other clothing requirements will be provided for events and camps.

A woggle, Group Neckerchief and Group Badge is provided when your child is invested. All the additional badges they will attain are also provided by us as part of your subscription. Replacement woggles are available from your leader - we ask for 50p to cover the cost of replacement woggles.

To purchase the uniform, go to the national Scout Store website:
<https://shop.scouts.org.uk/uniforms>.

Safeguarding, Data Protection & DBS

The Scout Association and the Group are all committed to the safety and security of our young people. We consider the safety of our Beavers, Cubs & Scouts to be of paramount concern. Disclosure and Barring Service checks (formally CRB checks) are therefore an important part of our approach to safeguarding young people. Adults who help regularly are DBS checked. Adult helpers who provide occasional help do not need to be unless they stay on overnight activities.

Useful links

Online Scout Manager: onlinescoutmanager.co.uk

Our website: meadowcovertscouts.org.uk

Facebook closed group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/meadowcovertscoutgroup>

Rushcliffe District: rushcliffescouts.org.uk

Nottinghamshire Scouts: notts-scouts.org.uk

Scouts UK: scouts.org.uk

Badge Work

Members of all ages work towards attaining awards and activity badges. Hobbies that your child already has can also be used to help both “activity badges” and progressive training awards.

Each section has a range of Challenge Badges. These can either be done individually or in groups. On completion of a number of these your child can earn the relevant Chief Scouts Award, the highest award earned worn on their uniform.

Lots of information about badges is available on the Scouts website:

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/information-for-parents/scout-badges/>

Badges at home

If you do activities in your own time (such as swimming or music lessons) for badges for activities or hobbies we don't cover in the meetings, you can look up the badge requirements, ask someone (like a music teacher for a Musician badge...) to certify that you have met those requirements and upload that to OSM as evidence for those badges. To show us your progress towards badges, you can upload a photo or video as evidence to Online Scout Manager, instructions below.

After logging into Online Scout Manager <https://www.onlinescoutmanager.co.uk/>:

1. select Badges
2. click the badge you've been working on
3. click “Complete at home” in the bottom right-hand corner
4. click “Upload Evidence” to upload a photo or video and tick the boxes to say you have completed the requirements.

A video guide to uploading evidence using Badges at Home is available [here](#).

Executive Committee

The Group Executive Committee plays a vital role in the running of a Scout Group. Executive Committees make decisions and carry out administrative tasks to ensure that the best quality Scouting can be delivered to young people in the Group.