

## WHAT SUPPORT DOES A YOUNG LEADER NEED?

The Young Leader scheme is progressive: the support needed aged 14 will differ greatly from that required at 17 ½.

Please encourage your Young Leader (YL) to get involved with the local Young Leader Unit, including attending training courses.

Please make sure there is opportunity in the programme for YL's to plan and run activities, remembering some YL's will need more help than others.

Young Leaders sometimes need help gaining the respect of the young people in the section, particularly in Scouts where there can be a small age gap. For this reason, a Young Leader should not go back to their old troop within 6 months of leaving.

The ESL (YL) is there to mentor the YL, they help them through the award schemes (PDQ, DofE), the missions, the training and help resolve any issues within the section.

## WHERE CAN I GET MORE HELP?

Each district has an Explorer Scout Leader in charge of Young Leaders [ESL(YL)], or the DESC [District Explorer Scout Commissioner].

## COUNTY SUPPORT

Assistant County Commissioner (Young Leaders)

Email: [youngleaders@berkshirescouts.org.uk](mailto:youngleaders@berkshirescouts.org.uk)

[www.berkshirescouts.org.uk/youth-programme/young-leaders/](http://www.berkshirescouts.org.uk/youth-programme/young-leaders/)



## SO, YOU'VE GOT A YOUNG LEADER WHAT NEXT?

This booklet is designed to help you and your Young Leader get the most out of their time helping in your section.

## WHAT IS A YOUNG LEADER?

A Young Leader can be:

An Explorer Scout

A Guide

A DofE student

If the young person wears a scout uniform, continues to attend after the DofE service has finished, or simply isn't a guide or DofE person then they are an explorer scout.

They don't have to attend another explorer unit, they can choose to only be a young leader, but they are still an explorer scout. They must be registered with the district and are the responsibility of the Explorer Scout Leader (Young Leaders) [ESL(YL)]

If in doubt... They're an explorer scout.

## WHAT TRAINING DO THEY GET?

Young Leaders have an excellent training course open to them. All Young Leaders have to complete Module A within three months of becoming a Young Leader. This includes all DofE students and Guides.

Following that the training modules are optional, however a further two modules have to be completed for Silver DofE and then again for Gold.

The modules develop skills in:

- Leadership
- Giving instructions
- Catering for special needs
- Playing games
- Communication
- Programme planning
- Reviewing programmes
- First aid
- Challenging behaviour

The more training a Young Leader receives, the greater their confidence and the more they get out of being a Young Leader. As the Young Leader grows in maturity it is helpful for them to revisit training material.

## MISSION IMPOSSIBLE

The biggest help you can give your Young Leader is to support them through their mission badges.

- Mission 1 – plan, run and evaluate 3 games
- Mission 2 – plan, run and evaluate an activity (not a game)
- Mission 3 – capture the ideas and suggestions from the young people, bring these to a section planning meeting
- Mission 4 – take responsibility for organising and running part of the sections programme

A log book is available to help them record their progress through the missions.

## WHAT SORT OF THINGS CAN A YOUNG LEADER DO?

Young Leaders can get involved in all different aspects of running a sectional programme including:

- Running games
- Running activities
- Running meeting nights
- Teaching skills
- Adventurous activity instruction (with required permits)
- Planning and run camps

They are never responsible for the welfare of the young people in the section, but they can be responsible for the running of a meeting or camp.

What your Young Leader can do, will depend on their age, individual skills, maturity and possibly their background in scouting.