

# Welcome to the 1<sup>st</sup> Eastleigh Scout Group

## Introduction

Welcome to the 1<sup>st</sup> Eastleigh Scout Group. This note provides some essential information for parents and guardians.

When your child first joins a section, you will be able to stay with them until they are settled. They will be able to attend meetings for a period of time before they are formally able to join the section.

The Group Website provides more information on each section.  
[www.1steastleighscouts.org.uk](http://www.1steastleighscouts.org.uk)

## Where and When

All our sections meet at the Centenary Hall, Chamberlayne Road Eastleigh, SO50 5JH.

The times for each section are given below. Please ensure that your child is at the hall before the start time as this is when the meeting starts.

- Squirrels      Friday 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm
- Beavers        Thursday 6.00 pm to 7.15 pm
- Cubs            Tuesday 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm
- Scouts          Thursday 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm

For Squirrels and Beavers no child is allowed to leave the hall at the end of the meeting and Parents are requested to enter the hall to collect their child.

## Subscriptions

Subscriptions (or Subs) cover all the costs of attending the regular meetings. Subs are charged on a termly basis and are paid by bank transfer to the Group account. Full details are available on the Group website. Special events are charged separately.

Please ensure that you pay the subs promptly at the start of the term as it saves us a lot of chasing.

Subs cover a number of Group costs including:

- the cost of insurance for Members, leaders
- headquarters running costs
- section running costs

The group are planning to start recovering gift aid on subscriptions. This involves the tax paying parent/guardian signing a gift aid declaration.

## Online Scout Manager

The Group uses Online Scout Manager (OSM) to manage all aspects of the scouting programme, events and subscriptions. You will be given login details when your child first joins. This gives you the opportunity to provide us with the information that we need regarding you and your child while they are a Member of the Group. OSM is a secure site that complies with our GDPR policy.

OSM provides an efficient way of communicating with parents about special events and the programme. It also provides information for parents to assist their child in undertaking activities outside of the regular section programme.

If you require assistance in completing the information, then please ask; we can provide guidance.

## Uniform

Scouts are a uniformed organisation, and uniforms can be purchased at the Arrow District Scout Shop, Allbrook Hill ([Arrow District Scouts Scout Shop \(arrowscouts.org.uk\)](http://arrowscouts.org.uk)). The shop is open during terms times at the following times:

- Saturdays 10.00 am to 4.00 pm
- Thursday 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm

Don't forget to ask for a Group scarf which is bottle green with a gold border.

## Investiture

When the new member is ready to formally join, they go through an investiture process. The investiture normally takes place at the Centenary Hall during a section meeting. They will be formally presented with their badges and group scarf. Parents and family are welcome to come and watch and to take photographs.

## Adult Assistance

The Leaders and assistants in all sections are volunteers. They give their time planning and conducting meetings freely. All sections require help and parents are expected to assist in any way that they can.

Each section works in a slightly different way, please talk to a leader about how you can assist.

## Group Scout Council

As a parent of a child Member, you are automatically a member of the Group Scout Council. The Scout Council meets once a year at an Annual General Meeting where the sections demonstrate to the meeting what they have achieved during the year. The AGM is normally held in June.