



Copmanthorpe Scout Group

Waiting List Policy

As an active and a popular Scout Group, with Sections usually at capacity, we have high demand from people wishing to join. **To be fair to all we maintain a Group Waiting List in line with this Policy.**

Copmanthorpe Scout Group has 2 Beaver Scout Colonies (who meet Mondays and Tuesdays respectively), 2 Cub Scout Packs (who meet Wednesdays and Thursdays respectively) and 2 Scout Troops (who meet Tuesdays and Thursdays respectively). We also feed demand into Tempest Explorers (who meet Mondays). Beaver Scouts are aged 6-8, Cubs 8-10½, Scouts 10½-14 and Explorers 14-18. Usually young people are eligible to join a Section from the term following the minimum age for that Section. Where young people mature more quickly, it may be possible to join Beaver Section from 5¾, Cubs from 7½, Scouts from 10, and Explorers from 13½. Young people should not remain in Beaver Section beyond 8½, Cubs beyond 11 or Scouts beyond 14½. There may be occasions when it will be appropriate to further extend this flexibility, with permission from the District Commissioner, due to a young person's additional needs and/or disability.

An exception to that is on turning 18, all Members must move into Scout Network or, if appropriate, apply for an adult volunteer role via the standard appointments process. At 18, an individual is legally an adult and cannot be in a youth Section.

Young people can only be added to our Waiting List from the age of five. A request to join is only formally recognised once it is recorded on our official Waiting List. This is held on our Online Scout Manager (OSM) database and is managed by a Waiting List Co-ordinator, supported by Section Leaders. The position in the 'queue' to join is managed by the Waiting List Co-ordinator. The final decision on how many people to accept into a Section is made by the respective Section Leader. Section Leaders are not forced to accept more young people than they are comfortable with.

Preference is given to young people:

- Who have a parent (or adult responsible) who regularly volunteers to help the Scout Group as a Leader, Section Assistant or Committee member.
- Who are already in Scouting and transferring from one Section to another.
- Who are transferring from another Scout Group due to moving into the York area.

The order we allocate places from our Waiting List is guided by the following:

1. Young people moving up from a younger Section at Copmanthorpe are allocated places before anyone is considered for joining direct from our Waiting List. Section Leaders may also take into consideration anticipated intake in future terms due to the age profile in the Sections at that time.
2. If a parent (or adult responsible) is on the Executive Committee or in a Leadership role their young person will get their preferred night ahead of others on the Waiting List, if capacity is available.
3. A young person at the 'top' of our Waiting List gets allocated a place for the relevant Section on a day where there is availability. We try to accommodate their preferred evening but this is not always possible.
4. If they decline an offered place they will lose this. If they express a desire to wait for a place to come available on their preferred night, this can only be offered if a place materialises within 6 months.
5. Young people are not offered a place in a particular Section if they will be old enough to move to the subsequent Section within 6 months.
6. Parents (or adult responsible) should be informed if it is unlikely their young person will ever get a place at Copmanthorpe. We can help them try another Scout Group in this case.

Any disputes on application of these guidelines can be raised with the Assistant Group Scout Leader in the first instance and escalated to the Group Scout Leader if not resolved. The Group Scout Leader's decision is final.