



Group Policy Youth Membership

Existing Members of a section – Moving-up

Moving-up will be considered in accordance with the published POR ages for YP in each section and will normally occur to coincide with an end and start of term. Moving-up will be planned at each of the Leaders' meetings prior to the end of term and within a time scale to bring the YP and parents into the discussion. Notwithstanding age considerations, discretion may be exercised by the section leaders for YP to remain longer for a number of reasons, e.g. maturity, disability etc.

New members on the Waiting List – Joining

After consideration of existing members and where there is capacity for additional intake, places will be offered to new members as outlined below:

1. Children of existing leaders and/or executive committee members
2. YP already members of Scouting moving in from out of area.
3. Date of registration – earliest first

Capacity for intake involves not only the initial section, but also the projected places at older sections. Careful provision must be maintained to ensure no section rises above its safe membership level. For this purpose, Beavers and Cubs should try and maintain a maximum of 24 and Scouts 30 members.

Where a new prospective member declines the offer of a place, they may move to the bottom of the waiting list with a new 'date of registration' if no valid reason is given. Otherwise, they will remain in the waiting list but the available place will be offered to the next young person on the waiting list.

If a prospective member is over 13 years of age, then they should, in the first instance be referred to their nearest Explorer Unit.

Termination of Membership – Leaving

YP may elect to leave Scouting at any point. In doing so, they totally revoke any place they held.

If a YP moves to another Group, their records should be sent, ideally by OSM transfer or otherwise printed out and handed to the parent/carer.

If a YP leaves Scouting for good, their records should be printed out for the parent to keep and then their records removed from OSM in toto in accordance with GDPR. Care should be taken not to delete the records prematurely until the Section Leader is absolutely sure of the future ambitions of the YP.

When a YP wishes to move to an explorer unit, then, in a similar fashion to moving-up, arrangements between both leadership teams should be made to come to a mutually acceptable transition.

Non-attendance

With lengthy waiting lists in existence, it is reasonable to expect that YP should attend section meetings on a regular basis, otherwise they are filling places that other more enthusiastic YP could use. It is the policy, therefore, that YP should attend at least 50% of section meetings each term unless valid reasons are forthcoming. Any YP who does not attend 50% of the meetings in a term will have to have his/her place reviewed through a discussion with the parents. If a similar subsequent attendance record re-occurs, then the YP will be asked to give up his/her place.

Should any YP not attend for 4 consecutive weeks without valid reason, then the parents/carers should be contacted to find out why they have not been at section meetings. If there is no valid reason, then the place will be put on review for another 2 weeks and if non-attendance continues, then the parents/carers will be informed that YP's place in the section has been forfeited.