

MOVING ON FROM BEAVERS TO CUBS

Moving on from the Beaver Colony to the Cub Pack is a big step. This is to let you know what expect.

What happens?

If Cub numbers permit, Beavers are invited to visit a Cubs meeting before they “swim up” at the end of their final Beavers meeting.

At Cubs, they will be placed in a six, which comprises an older Cub (the sixer), an assistant (the seconder) and three or four other Cubs. One of the older Cubs in the six will be asked to guide the new Cub. Cubs are assigned to sixes so that each six is balanced in terms of age range etc.

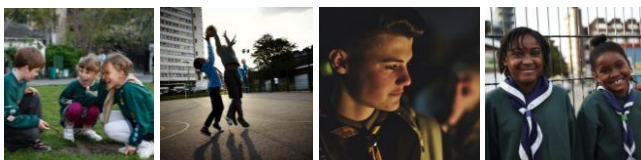
After about 3-5 weeks, they will be asked if they would like to make their Cub Scout Promise and be invested as a Cub. They will need to have the Cub uniform of sweatshirt and polo shirt by this point. They wear the same neck scarf as for Beavers, and we will provide a woggle in the colour of their six. Parents will be invited into the hall at the end of a Cub meeting to watch the investiture during which the new Cub Scout will place their hand on the Cub Pack standard, make the Scout sign and make the Promise, led by the Cub Scout Leader. There are different versions of the Promise according to the young person’s faith (see page 6 of the Parent’s Guide to Cub Scouts).

Once invested, some badges should be transferred to the Cub sweatshirt:

- The membership badge (purple arrow head).
- The County and District badges.
- The 1st Bourn tag.
- The highest year badge.
- Any staged activity badges (light blue with purple edge).
- The Chief Scout’s Bronze Award, if achieved.

See page 7 of the [Parent’s Guide](#) for the positions of the badges on the sweatshirt. The document has further useful interesting information about Cubs.

Uniform is available from various scout shops online (e.g. shop.scouts.org.uk), or from John Lewis.



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Who's who?

Baden-Powell took the stories written in the Jungle Book as the foundation of Cub Scouting, and the Cub leaders are usually named after the characters from the book. Cubs is run by a Cub Scout Leader, assisted by Assistant Cub Scout Leaders, parent helpers and Young Leaders.

We need help from parents in order to run Cubs (e.g. at camps or for particular meetings) and to support the leaders (e.g. by being on the executive committee or helping out with administration).

Medical and other information

When your child joined Beavers, you completed a registration form which asked whether your child has any additional needs, medical conditions, dietary requirements, allergies etc. Please let us know as soon as possible if anything has changed, or if there is any other information about your child that you feel we should know.

What do the Leaders Expect from Cubs?

Although the underlying principles of Scouting are exactly the same, Cubs are expected to be more self-reliant than Beavers, in particular taking responsibility for themselves and their belongings. They do things which are more challenging than Beavers, as is appropriate for their age. For example, Cub meetings are more formal than Beavers, hikes are longer and we go on a weekend camp each year.

Cubs must:

- Arrive on time.
- Attend regularly (it is of course OK to miss an occasional meeting, but we have a waiting list, so it is not fair to take up a place and not make full use of it).
- Wear their uniform - with neck scarves and badges sewn on in the right places.
- Know and abide by the Cub Scout Promise and Law.
- Be able to keep still and/or quiet when asked to.
- Not bring sweets or electronic devices to meetings.

Sixers and seconders are additionally expected to help organise their sixes, help the leaders and to represent their six in pack forums.

What happens in a Cub Meeting?

Cubs arrive and have free play (e.g. on the outdoor play equipment in summer) for the first few minutes. The pack then is brought to order by a Leader calling out, "Pack, Pack, Pack". The Cubs are expected to quickly arrange themselves in their sixes, and the leader nominates the duty sixer or seconder, who leads Cubs in the Grand Howl and who breaks the flag, which is saluted. The plans for the evening are then outlined.



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We usually start off with a game, and then move into the main part of the meeting, which may be sports / activities (e.g. archery, air rifles, athletics, unihoc), scouting skills (e.g. fire lighting & cooking, knots, map reading, first aid, pitching a tent), a hike, challenges (problem solving, team-working), making things etc. We aim to work on three Challenge badges and at least three Activity Badges each year so that over the course of their time in the pack cubs have the opportunity to gain the Chief Scout's Silver Award. While most badge work is done during the weekly meeting, some badges require attendance at special events such as St George's Day, Remembrance Sunday or camp and occasionally there may be things to be done at home as well.

A final game will be played if there is time, and then the pack returns to order with the call, "Pack, Pack, Pack". Notices are read out, badges awarded and reminders issued. Finally the flag is lowered and the Cubs are dismissed.

How do we keep in contact?

Most communication is by email (if you're not getting email messages, please let us know by emailing secretary@bournscouts.org.uk).

We also use the MyScout website. This allows you to view the term's programme, sign your child up for camps and other events, see your child's badge progress and edit their personal details. You will receive a separate email inviting you into My Scout in due course. **PLEASE LOGIN TO CHECK** that we have your correct details, especially your mobile phone number(s), so that we can contact you in case of emergency.

Photography

1st Bourn scout group takes photographs during meetings, activities and events for use in the group's Annual Report and closed Facebook page (which is only open to parents, leaders and executive committee members).

Other organisations (such as activity providers) occasionally ask to use photos in their publicity, website, etc. In such cases, we will seek separate permission from parents for particular photos. Although these photographs are only used internally, as with standard practice at schools, we never name the children in the photographs to maintain privacy.

If you do not want photographs of your children used for these purposes please let the Membership Secretary and Leader know.

Costs

Subscriptions are £35 per term and should be paid directly into our bank account. You will receive a reminder at the start of each term. There are separate fees for sleepovers and occasional other activities (e.g., activity days). The cost of an activity is **never** a bar to participation for **any** Cub. If necessary, please feel free to speak to one of the Leaders about any difficulties, which will be treated confidentially.



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