

Returning to face-to-face Scouting

What happens when we return to Beavers, Cubs or Scouts

Thank you for agreeing to help us make this work. We are sure you understand the importance of allowing young people to meet safely with their peers during this time. On behalf of the group, the young people and their parents thank you for giving up your time and energy.

We are excited to be back together again, but to keep you, the young people, your family and our leaders and helpers safe, we must do some things differently.

I am confident the measures we are taking minimise the risk from COVID-19 to acceptably low levels, but only if we all stick to and enforce them. So, please read this document carefully. We are all responsible to ensure that our return is safe, fun and engaging.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the GSL or appropriate AGSL.

If anyone has Covid-19 symptoms

If you, anyone you live with, or anyone you have been close to in the last week has a cough, high temperature, has lost their sense of smell or taste or has had a positive COVID-19 test then please stay at home.

Please let the GSL know as soon as possible.

Please make sure we have your up-to-date details

Please make sure all details in OSM are complete and correct. Let us know if you are allergic to any hand-washing products.

Small groups

We no longer need to meet in batches. However, we would recommend organising activities using smaller groups (lodges, sixes, troops, whatever is appropriate).

If you need to split your section into more than one group you should take into consideration any existing “bubbles” the young people might be a member of, in particular their schools. You could also consider other external clubs and friendship groups.

Arrival

You will need to arrive in time to set up the hand washing station and to complete any necessary cleaning before any young people arrive.

Make sure adults are allocated to receive young people at the gate to the compound, to manage the hand-washing station, and to manage the young people while they are waiting for the session to start.

Do not lift-share with anyone else (except your family), and if possible, please walk to the hut.

If you do have to drive, do not park by the compound. We will be using that space as a waiting area for parents at pick-up.

Indoor Usage

From 12 April 2021, indoor usage is allowed but outdoors activities will remain the preference for the moment.

Any indoor activities should be designed to maintain spacing, minimise rapid movement and avoid raised voices. There should also be expanded consideration for cleaning touch-points (door handles, pegs, benches/storage)

Scouts and Explorers will need to wear face coverings indoors.

Departure

The young people should be dismissed one-by-one, to leave via the hand-washing station.

Other adults should be encouraged to leave promptly.

Personal belongings

Young people should keep coats and belongings with them. You might wish to mark out suitably distanced spots where the young people can leave their rucksacks.

Basic hygiene measures

Make sure you wash your hands regularly, and that you catch any sneezes and bin any tissues, and make sure you have washed your hands before leaving home.

You will need to wash your hands on arrival, on departure, and before and after any activities.

Please make sure you are not wearing the same clothes that you have worn all day. You should wear your uniform (or hoodie) and different trousers.

Make sure the hand-washing stations are set-up before any young people arrive (with water, hand wash/soap, gel, paper towels, and bins).

Make sure that an adequate supply of tissues has been placed in an accessible place.

Distancing

Unless there is an immediate safety issue, you need to keep at least 2m away from everyone else during the meeting. Plan activities to enable this to happen.

During the opening remind everyone of social distancing and hygiene rules.

The young people (and adults) will forget to maintain distance from time to time. Continue to remind them as necessary.

If you believe it is necessary to move an activity to maintain distancing, do so.

If activities are held outside of the compound and you encounter members of the public, politely ask them to help maintain distancing.

If any young person hugs or otherwise come into physical contact with you (this is more likely to be an issue with younger age groups), do not hug back and do not drop to their height. Remind them about distancing.

As a last resort, if any young person repeatedly fails to follow the distancing and hygiene rules, call their parents and ask them to come and collect their young person.

Shielding

If you or anyone else in your household is shielding, you may choose not to attend. If you are in this situation and you are thinking of attending, please feel free to discuss this with us.

What happens if someone gets ill

If you start to feel ill at any point during the meeting, please tell another adult immediately. If there are no other warranted leaders in the session, call the GSL or appropriate AGSL.

If you develop COVID-19 symptoms within 7 days of the session, let us know as soon as possible.

In either case, please arrange to be tested and inform the GSL or appropriate AGSL of the result once you have it.

If anyone tells you that they feel ill at any point during the meeting, isolate them and call their contact, asking that they come and collect the ill person. If anyone needs to remain with the ill person, they should use appropriate PPE. Record the incident in the first aid book, including the name of anyone who remained with the ill person. Inform the GSL.

If anyone in the section tests positive for COVID-19 inform parents, adults and the GSL and follow any advice from Track and Trace

Track and Trace

If requested, you should pass on details of all those present at the session to Track and Trace.

The Programme

At present we would prefer to meet outdoors, so please make sure you are wearing appropriate clothing so you won't feel too cold/hot and can stay dry.

Where appropriate, you should ask parents and adults to confirm attendance in advance (use an OSM Event if necessary).

Activities should be planned to maintain distancing, minimise shared handling and avoid difficult to clean equipment.

The adult team should be briefed on the plan for the session in advance.

Where possible, no equipment should be brought in from home.

There should be no unstructured and unsupervised play activities while everyone is arriving.

Start sessions promptly with registration and an opening ceremony.

Risk assessments

There must be a written risk assessment for all activities, with a particular focus on infection risk. Concentrate on the main risks. You can reference existing risk assessments.

Toilets

The toilets need to be carefully managed to maintain distancing, so we want to use them as little as possible.

The outside door of both toilets should be wedged open to minimise handling. Cubicles and be shut.

Operate a one-in-one-out approach, and if possible, use just one toilet to minimise cleaning.

Let one young person at a time use the toilets. Others waiting to form a spaced queue outside.

Once they have finished you will need to quickly spray and wipe down the main touchpoints in the toilet: door handles, locks, and taps. Cleaning equipment will be available at the toilets.

First Aid

If anyone uses medicines that can be self-administered (an inhaler, for example) they should be encouraged to use it themselves without an adult intervening

For any basic first aid, such as small plasters, we should encourage and provide guidance for the young person (or adult) to treat the incident themselves.

If adult intervention is required, ensure First Aid is administered in line with COVID-19 guidance:

- wash hands prior to administering first aid, if situation allows;
- put on gloves, apron, face mask and face shield (first aider);

- put on face covering/mask (patient), if situation allows.
- Wash hands after administering first aid

Follow latest Red Cross CPR guidance.

- Use a rescue face shield or pocket mask.
- Emergency 'breaths' are not essential if face-shield unavailable.
- In adults the current governmental advice is that a cloth or some other covering should be placed over the mouth and nose and no rescue breaths should be given, only chest compressions at the normal rate

Face shields are reusable and should be cleaned and disinfected. Other PPE is disposable and should be disposed of in a yellow bin bag.

If any prolonged treatment is required, we should call the parent (or other contact) to request assistance.

All first aid incidents should be recorded, along with the name of the adult providing the first aid.

If anyone needs to speak to you

Managing the arrival and departure and ensuring the hut is secure and clean will take most of our time before and after sessions, so you should assume that it will not be possible for anyone to you at that time. Arrange another suitable time for a discussion, maybe using Zoom or similar

Adult leadership and help

Consider using a parent rota if there are not enough leaders.

If there are not enough leaders to run a session, consider running a virtual session instead.

Ensure adults are briefed in advance on any planned activities.

Cleaning

All equipment should be cleaned and disinfected at the end of the session

Toilets, including handles, locks, light switches and toilet seats should be cleaned before and after the session. The floors should be mopped after the session, and the mop and mop bucket disinfected

A cleaning checklist is available.

If face visors have been used these can be cleaned and disinfected

What to do with any waste

Ensure all bins have liners



<https://1stcrookham.org/>

Gloves, masks and aprons, along with any possibly contaminated material, should be disposed of in a differently-coloured (yellow) bin bag, double-bagged, and removed at the end of the session. It can be disposed of in normal domestic waste.

Other waste should be binned and removed.

Miscellaneous

At present, we will not be taking cash payments for items like t shirts. We can provide details to make a bank transfer if needed.

Section mascots should be left at the hut