



Scouts
Scotland

Scouts Scotland

COVID-19 Framework for the delivery of Scouting

19 August 2021

Permitted Scout Activity in Scotland from 19 August 2021

The following information outlines approaches to delivery that will be permitted from **19 August 2021**. Some young people and volunteers may feel anxious or not ready to engage in face-to-face meetings and their views should be respected when considering how you will deliver and the right time and pace for the re- introduction of face-to-face Scouting.

A District approved covid risk assessment is no longer required but you must have a risk assessment for all meetings and activities that incorporates covid measures.. However, any Section that has not had a covid risk assessment approved before should seek the approval of their District Commissioner before recommencing. This is purely to offer support and guidance.

[Scout Guidance](#) continues to be available on the UK website to assist.

Scout Yellow Readiness Level
Beyond Level 0
Applies to all Sections and Volunteers
<p>All meetings and events are permitted indoors and outdoors with no limit of numbers. (See separate information in regard to camps and residential experiences).</p> <p>No physical distancing is required in any setting but face coverings must be worn in indoor locations by everyone aged 12+</p> <p>Scout ratios for both indoors and outdoors must be applied.</p>
Keeping Everyone Safe
<p>The revised Scottish Strategic Framework is the main source of information for this guidance. It makes clear that some of these measures, provided for either by regulations or in guidance, will be expected to continue and everyone should continue to act carefully and remain cautious including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• good hand hygiene and surface cleaning• continued promotion of good ventilation• requirement for face coverings in certain settings (e.g. public transport)• continued compliance with Test and Protect, including a register of attendance at every meeting.

Travel:

Those using public transport / dedicated Scout transport should adhere to the latest Scottish Government legislation and/or guidelines, which is that all young people aged 12 and over and all adults must wear a face covering. Volunteers should also consider the appropriateness of travel for those with protected characteristics and respond to concerns expressed by volunteers who consider themselves to be at higher risk.

Volunteers may wish to consider:

Before delivering Section Meetings, leadership teams should consider:

- What measures are needed to support cleaning of any equipment or materials to be used and to facilitate personal hygiene.
- How will you communicate to young people your safety measures?

Risk Assessments, Health and Hygiene:

Leaders are reminded of the need to have a Covid risk assessment. Covid risks can be integrated into your regular risk assessments if you prefer. There is also a need to review all Risk Assessments regularly. **All leaders are required to have up to date safety and safeguarding training before returning to face-to-face delivery.**

Delivery in spaces managed by others:

Where Scouting is delivered in spaces managed by others, including community halls, church halls and private outdoor settings, the organisation responsible for the setting should ensure they have a [venue risk assessment](#) and procedures and facilities for infection prevention and control. A Scout Group using these premises or settings should undertake a Scout risk assessment for the activity they will be delivering. They should comply with the mitigations put in place by the person responsible for the premises.

Camping and Residential Experiences

Scotland

From 19 August 2021

Camping and Residential activities are at the heart of what we do as Scouts, and we know that this level of activity has been the most impacted over the past year.

The Scottish Government has now provided a route plan for the recommencement of these activities and this update will take effect on **19 August 2021**. **Please remember these arrangements can change at short notice and may mean that an event has to be cancelled or postponed.** This needs to be considered in regard to loss of deposits and communicated to parents.

Before any planning starts it is essential that you read through the guidance relating to [planning COVID safe nights away](#). COVID risk assessments in relation to Nights Away experiences should be integrated into event risk assessments when seeking DC approval. **Use the UK guidance for Nights Away alongside this factsheet, in respect to the rules in Scotland.**

All adult members who are involved in any Nights Away experience must have all their safety and safeguarding mandatory training up to date and all adults must have a current PVG.

What can we do in Scotland?

Scout Camping counts as residential activity under Scottish Government guidance and must adhere to national guidance on residential for youth work.

Scout Yellow Readiness Level
Beyond Level 0
Applies to all Sections and Volunteers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All camps and residential experiences permitted indoors and outdoors.• Scout ratios for both indoors and outdoors must be applied.• No limit on numbers in tents or rooms.• No physical distancing is required indoors or outdoors• Face Coverings are required indoors for age 12+ except whilst eating and sleeping.

Travel Considerations:

On dedicated transport, face coverings should be worn by anyone aged 12 years and over (unless exemptions apply).

An effective enhanced cleaning regime should be in place. This includes cleaning of frequently touched surfaces after each journey.

The following precautionary approaches may help further minimise risk:

- Assigning the same seats for the out/in journey.
- All individuals should be encouraged to sanitise hands prior to boarding the transport and on arrival/ return.
- Good respiratory hygiene should be reinforced, such as encouraging young people to carry tissues.
- The consumption and sharing of food and drink should be discouraged.
- Windows on dedicated transport should be kept open, where possible, and ensure that mechanical ventilation uses fresh rather than recirculated air; or use air conditioning with attention paid to the appropriate frequency for changes of filters.

Lateral Flow Checks:

Whilst not compulsory, The Scouts strongly recommend asking members aged 12 and above to undertake lateral flow tests, in relation to nights away. This will provide confidence to members, parents and volunteers before and during camps and residential experiences. Further detail can be found [here](#).

Your risk assessment and parental consent process should make clear that parents are responsible for coming to collect their child promptly, should they develop Covid symptoms and/or return a positive test result. They should also be aware that the camp could be cut short if an adult tests positive.

Expedition Advice:

Light weight camping as part of a journey or expedition is an integral part of Scouting and forms part of our badge work scheme and top awards. Expedition camping presents a few areas that must be considered within risk assessment in relation to COVID-19.

Participants (and leaders) should use separate plates, mugs, and cutlery.

Venue Risk Assessments:

Leaders planning camps and residential experiences should satisfy themselves that venue COVID protocols are in place to ensure the safety of their members. On request, venues should provide a copy of their COVID risk assessment to groups. District Commissioners may also ask to see these prior to approval.

Graeme Luke
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