

Your Scouting news from across the County

CC Chat

As we head into the Summer break, we have seen the start of restrictions being lifted to allow the return to face to face Scouting - hurray!!

I know many of you are already looking at the process to return to face to face Scouting with some Groups and Units back already. However, others will be daunted by the return process - please do not let it become a big mountain to climb, both District and County teams are here to help however we can. And if you are not ready to return yet - that's OK!

Come September we will see a new and varied range of Scouting, including virtual and face to face meetings - however you are engaging with your Young People it will be amazing! And most importantly everyone needs to feel comfortable and confident that they are providing safe Scouting and able to adapt to whatever situation we may find ourselves in. There are links to the support available throughout this issue.

Of course as we return to face to face Scouting the safety of each other is, as always, the number one priority and for this reason the mandatory ongoing learning modules are a requirement of returning for everyone. Completing these helps us all, whether a line manager, executive member or section leader, ensure we fulfil our key responsibility of keeping everyone safe. Over the last few months there have been a number of emails sent from HQ, County and also locally about the need to bring training up to date where it is overdue - particularly safety, safeguarding and GDPR. Details on how to bring your mandatory learning up to date is below and I would urge you to do this at your first available opportunity.

For those looking to move on with their wood badge, please see page 3 for the training and validation opportunities available. Thank you to all involved in providing these virtual opportunities.

You may also see details of changes from HQ that will be taking place from September onwards. Amidst all the change and uncertainty it can feel daunting and overwhelming - it is important to remember that all changes are being guided by our Scout values: integrity, respect, care, belief and co-operation. Keeping these in mind will help us understand, accept and introduce them. Details on some of the changes and support available can be found later, whilst others we will cover next month.

Over the coming days, look out for the virtual County events taking place! These will help keep Young People engaged and provide some activity ideas for them and their families. If you haven't been in contact with your Section for a while how about using these as an opportunity to, by sending them the details of the events and asking them to share their experiences. The whole family can take part and join in the fun - all the details are on page 2. Check out our social media channels to see what's happening across the events and don't forget to share your own contributions!

All that's left is for me to say, I hope you all take the opportunity to have a well-deserved and well-earned break over the Summer and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Wendy - County Commissioner - cc@oxonscouting.org.uk

Mandatory On Going Learning (MOGL)

Exactly what it says on the tin! It's mandatory! The Scouts have been sending email reminders directly to all members who have outstanding mandatory ongoing safety, safeguarding and GDPR training on Compass.

It is now essential that all outstanding mandatory training is completed.

To complete your [Safety training click here.](#)

To complete the new! [safeguarding training click here.](#)

To Complete the GDPR training [click here.](#)

You can also send your certificates to info@oxonscouting.org.uk or your Training Advisor for validation.

County Virtual Events – Summer 2020

Whilst Leaders across the county enjoy a well-deserved break, Scouting will carry on. We're running three fantastic virtual events throughout the summer holidays, to offer young people the chance to continue enjoying Scouting from the comfort and safety of their own homes.

These events are open to all sections, and are free of charge for all young people and their families. [A poster which can be shared with parents, carers and young people can be found online: here.](#)

Please share the poster with your young people and their families; we'd love to see loads of them getting involved. Throughout each event, we will be sharing photos via our social media channels, so that you can see all of the amazing things which young people have been enjoying.

Pace-a-Picture – 1st/2nd August:

The first of our three virtual events challenges young people to get outside and enjoy planning and walking a hiking route in their local area, whilst using their route to create a fabulous picture. Whether they be pacing their nearby streets, or venturing out into the countryside, we want as many young people and their families as possible to get outside and enjoy a fun day of artistic strolling. Full details of how to get involved are on the county website, or via the links on the poster.

Oxfordshire's Festival of Scouting – 15th/16th August:

A fun-filled weekend of Scouting skills, crafts, cooking and more – with something for everyone to enjoy. Our virtual festival will feature live, interactive sessions on a huge variety of topics suitable for all ages. Young people can brush up on their first aid skills, work towards their cyclist badge, try out new recipes in the kitchen, or learn a new talent. A full timetable will be published on the county website a week before the Festival, and you can also check out our social media channels for some sneak previews of some of the exciting sessions we have planned!

Bank Holiday Bonanza – 29th/30th/31st August:

What better way to end the summer than taking on the rest of the county in a series of weird, wacky and wonderful challenges? With new challenges being released throughout the weekend, young people can choose which ones to take on, with every challenge worth a different number of points. Go for the maximum number of challenges, or opt for those worth the most points, in a bid to be crowned champion. Our bank holiday bonanza promises to be the perfect end to the summer holidays, and fun for all the family. Full details will be published on the county website, but the challenges are staying top secret until the weekend begins!

[Visit the County website here, for the resources once they become available.](#)

Save the Date!

Oxfordshire County AGM

Saturday 19th September 11am

If you would like to attend,
please sign up here.

Zoom Deadline - 31st July 2020

A partnership with Zoom is confirmed and is now available for Scout Groups & Districts.

The deadline to sign up for a Zoom Pro account is today! Make the most of this exciting and essential tool.

For more information on this wonderful resource and to sign up [click here.](#)

Oxfordshire Scouts Adult Training

We have dates through to September which cover:

Getting Started modules:

- Section leaders (modules 1, 2 & 3)
- Managers & Supporters (modules 1, 2 & 4)
- Executive committee members training (module 1Ex)

Validation of learning for all roles

In addition, we are offering the following Wood Badge modules (5, 11, 12, 14, 15, 19)

Module	Description	Date	Start
Module 3	Tools for the Role - Section Leaders	06 Aug (Thu)	19:30
Module 4	Tools for the Role - Managers & Supporters	06 Aug (Thu)	19:30
	Validation online	12 Aug (Wed)	19:30
	Validation online	12 Aug (Wed)	20:30
Module 1Ex	Essential Information for Executive members	13 Aug (Thu)	19:30
Module 1	Essential Information	19 Aug (Wed)	19:30
Module 4	Tools for the Role - Managers & Supporters	19 Aug (Wed)	19:30
	Validation online	20 Aug (Thu)	19:30
	Validation online	20 Aug (Thu)	20:30
Module 3	Tools for the Role - Section Leaders	22 Aug (Sat)	09:30
Module 2	Personal Learning Plan (PLP) Managers and Supporters	24 Aug (Mon)	19:30
Module 2	Personal Learning Plan (PLP) Sectional roles	24 Aug (Mon)	19:30
	Validation online	25 Aug (Tue)	19:30
	Validation online	25 Aug (Tue)	20:30
Module 1Ex	Essential Information for Executive members	26 Aug (Wed)	19:30
Module 14	Supporting Young People	02 Sep (Wed)	19:30
Module 15	Promoting Positive Behaviour	03 Sep (Thu)	19:30
	Validation online	05 Sep (Sat)	10:00
	Validation online	05 Sep (Sat)	11:00
Module 4	Tools for the Role - Managers & Supporters	10 Sep (Thu)	19:30
Module 11	Administration	12 Sep (Sat)	14:00
Module 19	International	12 Sep (Sat)	09:30
Module 2	Personal Learning Plan (PLP) Managers and Supporters	16 Sep (Wed)	19:30
Module 2	Personal Learning Plan (PLP) Sectional roles	16 Sep (Wed)	19:30
Module 3	Tools for the Role - Section Leaders	24 Sep (Thu)	19:30
Module 12 (A&B)	Planning and Delivering a Quality Programme	27 Sep (Sun)	09:30
Module 5	Fundamentals of Scouting	28 Sep (Mon)	19:30

All the online sessions are on the system and can be accessed by following this link: [Book on a course](#)

Who can help with training?

In addition to your line manager, the following people can support you with your training

Local Training Managers (LTM)

District	Name	E mail
King Alfred (temporary)	Colin Davidson	ltmka@oxonscouting.org.uk
North Oxfordshire (temporary)	Colin Davidson	ltmno@oxonscouting.org.uk
Oxford Spires	Maria Chaundy	ltmos@oxonscouting.org.uk
Thames Chiltern	Colin Allum	ltmtc@oxonscouting.org.uk
Thames Ridge	Tim Scane	ltmtr@oxonscouting.org.uk
West Oxfordshire	Rose Ralphs	ltmwo@oxonscouting.org.uk
County		
LTM TAs - Managers & Supporters	Patrina Effer	ltmtams@oxonscouting.org.uk
County Training Manager	Colin Davidson	ctm@oxonscouting.org.uk
County Administrator	Michelle Cox	Michelle.cox@oxonscouting.org.uk

Learning resources page

The following link takes you to whole range of useful information regarding training The [Scouts Training resources page](#)

The training team are committed to ensuring that you get the best training possible, even in these challenging times. If you have any questions about your training, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Our climbing wall is back!

Yes! You heard right! Our wall is back after some essential repairs. We will be opening bookings for community events due to take place in 2021, in September 2020 . More details to follow, but in the mean time, check out your local events and see if you can get a team together to put in a request!

Take a look at our [handy FAQ guide](#) for things you should consider before you submit your bid.

Local funding support

HQ want to support you with local challenges as we prepare to return to face-to-face Scouts. In April, you told them that you wanted help with volunteer recruitment and the financial impact of COVID-19: [check out the local funding opportunities](#) and our [guidance on tried and tested ways to get more volunteers on board from a distance](#).

Country roads take me home...

It's been a year since the World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia - can you believe it? Check out the units report written by the unit members [here](#).

Got a story?

We would love to hear stories on Scouting as it happens. Email us [your stories here](#).

The return to Scouting

As we are continuing in the journey for your groups and sections to return to face to face scouting, we wanted to highlight a few key points to assist you .

We now have a dedicated page on our website that will tell you the latest status and forms home to all the support resources and links for submitting those all important risk assessments. [The page can be found here.](#)

The return to Scouting activity form

In looking at the risk assessment template alongside the Commissioner approver checklist, we realise that there will be additional information needed to enable approval. To allow all the information we need to give the green light we have developed the attached Return to Scouting Activity Form. Please complete and upload this form alongside your risk assessment. The Return to Scouting Activity form [can be downloaded here.](#)

Whilst I appreciate this is a further form to fill out, it will avoid us having to reject risk assessments due to lack of information. In completing all the questions on the form, your District Commissioner should have all the information they need to be able to review the risk assessment and provide feedback on any adjustments necessary.

As a reminder of some of the key points:

- We will be looking to approve risk assessments from the 20th July for those Sections wishing to return
- Please allow a two week period for your risk assessment to be approved (to allow time for questions / adjustments). We anticipate a number of Groups will look to restart activities from September, therefore the further into August the risk assessment is submitted the longer the approval process is likely to take
- DBS checks can now be completed and all leaders returning must have a valid disclosure
- All leaders returning must have all their mandatory training completed and logged on Compass. See page one for how to access the training.
- No section can undertake any face to face activities with young people without prior approval from their District Commissioner – doing so will risk suspension
- No camping or sleepovers can take place at the current time – this will be reviewed again nationally in September
- At the current Amber readiness level you can organise face-to-face outdoor activities only with a maximum group size of 15, including all adults.

Where your section is bigger than this, there must be at least 25m between groups of 15. No young person or adult can move between groups on the same day. Therefore a leader cannot run activities for two different sections on the same evening nor two different groups of 15 one after the other.

Adult volunteers need to follow the governments social distancing guidelines where young people are not involved (planning meetings etc) – including the guidance around the number of households that can meet indoors and outdoors. There's a lot of support to help you complete your risk assessment and ensure you have considered all the requirements to be confident in your Sections return to Scouting.

There is a lot of support to help you with completing your Risk assessment and making sure you have considered everything to ensure you feel confident in your sections return to scouting. [Further information can be found here.](#)

You can submit your [risk assessment here.](#)

There is also a handy video to support you in writing your risk assessment, [this can be viewed here.](#)

Volunteer opportunities

We have two exciting new roles in the Adult Support team. And the Deputy County Commissioner (Adult Support) role that we are recruiting into now.

DCC (Adult Support) - As DCC Adult Support you will lead and manage a team of volunteers to support & increase awareness of our inclusion policy, support adults with adventurous activities and provide general support to all adults in Scouting.

ACC (Executive Support) – In this role you will support & increase awareness of the trustee role that executive committee members hold, support executive committee members in ensuring mandatory training is up to date, encourage and support good governance within executive committees and encourage sharing of best practice amongst executive committee members.

County Safeguarding Coordinator – In this role you will promote the Safety Policy within the County. Providing support and guidance to leaders, District Commissioners, executive members and County Commissioner in operating and implementing the Safety Policy. In the first instance this will be support on completing risk assessments; increasing awareness of national Scouting resources for risk assessments and creating tools and guidance to support leaders.

For more information, including full role descriptions and how to apply please visit the [Vacancies section of the website here](#).

A sneak peek into next months edition of The Ox...

There are lots of updates on the horizon! Next month we plan to create an easy to read Ox that explains all the changes and updates to support you in your role..

Watch this space!

Easy way to catch up

There has been a lot information recently. The Scouts have a Vimeo channel for all the webinars and video virtual resources.

[The Vimeo channel can be accessed here.](#)

Virtual programme support

Our HQ team have been busy creating a number of different videos offering ideas for running a virtual programme and social distance programme for when you are ready to return to face to face scouting.

The can be accessed on the links below:

[Virtual Programme Support](#)

Socially distanced games and activities for:

[Beaver Scouts](#)

[Cub Scouts](#)

[Scouts](#)

[Explorer Scouts](#)

[Scout Network](#)

And [generally adapting the programme.](#)

Scouts 
Oxfordshire



Stay in the loop with all the latest news!