

# THE SCOUT PROMISE, LAW AND MOTTO

## Explained

Scouting is not just a youth group.

Scouting has a purpose, and our activities are run in line with our movement's values:

### THE PURPOSE OF SCOUTING

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

### THE VALUES OF SCOUTING

#### Integrity

We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

#### Respect

We have self-respect and respect for others.

#### Care

We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

#### Belief

We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

#### Cooperation

We make a positive difference; we cooperate with others and make friends.

### THE SCOUT METHOD

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of scouting, and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun;
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors;
- learn by doing;
- share in spiritual reflection;
- take responsibility and make choices;
- undertake new and challenging activities; and
- make and live by their Promise.

The values of scouting can be difficult for young people to understand at different ages, therefore Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Scout Network Members and Adult Volunteers all make a 'Promise' and follow a 'Law' which is age appropriate. These are explained in the following pages.

# THE SCOUT PROMISE, LAW AND MOTTO

## Explained

## JOINING THE SCOUT TROOP

Young people who are new to the scout troop will visit for a few weeks to see what scouts get up to. During one of these visits a scout leader will discuss the Scout Promise and Scout Law with them. To become a scout in the troop officially, they will make their promise in front of the troop. Before they do this, they need to learn about the Scout Law. They do not need to remember the law word-for-word, but they must understand it. The Scout Law is a set of 7 simple rules that we ask every scout to try to keep - at times it can be a challenge, but during our activities we try to give the scouts a better understanding of how they can live up to their promise and keep the Scout Law.

### THE SCOUT LAW

1. A Scout is to be trusted.
2. A Scout is loyal.
3. A Scout is friendly and considerate.
4. A Scout belongs to the worldwide family of Scouts.
5. A Scout has courage in all difficulties.
6. A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property.
7. A Scout has self respect and respect for others

### THE SCOUT MOTTO

“Be Prepared”

The Scout Motto is possibly one of the most famous phrases associated with Scouting and is shared across the movement.

When a new scout is ready to join the troop officially, they make their promise during a short ceremony called an ‘investiture’. The Promise is based on the shared values of all scouts, but has a number of variations in wording, depending on each young person’s personal faith and beliefs.

We ask that all scouts learn their promise off-by-heart, as it is important they try their best to live by it. However we understand that people can get nervous when having to speak in front of the troop, so during their investiture they will be asked to repeat their promise after a leader.

They should choose the most appropriate wording of the promise for them, from the list below. The leaders are happy to discuss the different variations with each new scout, should they have any further questions.

## **THE SCOUT PROMISE**

(Christian, Jew or Sikh)

On my honour, I promise that I will do my best,  
To do my duty to God and to the Queen,  
To help other people,  
And to keep the Scout Law.

## **THE SCOUT PROMISE**

(Humanist, Agnostic, Atheist, or no faith)

On my honour, I promise that I will do my best,  
To uphold our Scout values, to do my duty to the Queen,  
To help other people,  
And to keep the Scout Law.

## **THE SCOUT PROMISE**

(Hindu or Buddhist)

On my honour, I promise that I will do my best,  
To do my duty to my Dharma and to the Queen,  
To help other people,  
And to keep the Scout Law.

## **THE SCOUT PROMISE**

(Muslim)

In the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent the Most Merciful,  
I promise that I will do my best,  
To do my duty to Allah and to the Queen,  
To help other people,  
And to keep the Scout Law.

*For foreign nationals living in the UK, the phrase '(duty) to the Queen' may be replaced by '(duty) to the country in which I am now living.'*