



PREPARING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SKILLS FOR LIFE

Background Information

District Commissioner

Middlesbrough District Scouts

Closing date for nominations
Friday 1st February 2019



Introduction to Cleveland Scouts and Middlesbrough

We're preparing young people with skills for life

Scouting is a uniformed movement and the UK's biggest mixed youth organisation. We change lives by offering 6 to 25 year olds fun and challenging activities, unique experiences, everyday adventure and the chance to help others so that we make a positive impact in communities.

Scouts helps children and young adults reach their full potential. Our members gain valuable skills for life including teamwork, time management, leadership, initiative, planning, communication, self-motivation, cultural awareness and commitment. We help young people to get jobs, save lives and even change the world.

Middlesbrough is a District in Cleveland, in the North East of England which covers the unity authority of Middlesbrough. It is one of five Districts which make up Cleveland.

Presently, there are 9 Groups with 860 young people and volunteers in Middlesbrough. We bring communities together and contribute to society. Above all, we aim to build better futures. Each week across the UK, almost half a million young people enjoy fun, friendship and outdoor adventure. They develop a sense of optimism and strong values as well as the leadership and teamwork skills that are more valuable today than ever before.

What do Scouts do?

Scouts take part in a wide range of activities as diverse as kayaking, abseiling, expeditions overseas, photography, climbing and zorbing. As a Scout you can learn survival skills, first aid, computer programming or even how to fly a plane. There's something for everyone. It's a great way to have fun, make friends, get outdoors, express your creativity and experience the wider world.

What do volunteers do?

This everyday adventure is only possible thanks to our team of adult volunteers, who support Scouts in a wide range of roles from working directly with young people, to helping manage a local community based Group, to being a charity Trustee. We help volunteers get the most out of their experiences at Scouts by providing opportunities for adventure, training, fun and friendship.

Our award winning training scheme for volunteers means that adults get as much from Scouts as young people. Our approach focuses on what you want to get out of volunteering with Scouts, while respecting how much time you can offer. Over 90% of Scout volunteers say that their skills and experiences have been useful in their work or personal life.

Key facts and figures

The Scout Association is a UK charity founded in 1907 and now boasts a membership of over 620,000 young people and adult leaders. We are the largest mixed youth movement in the UK. Scouting activity is delivered through 7,000-plus community based Scout Groups nationwide.

Scouting is widely recognised and is one of the most trusted charities in the UK, giving it a significant level of influence and responsibility. Scouting's greatest strength lies in its grass roots. It is locally that Scouting is best able to identify and work directly with young people most in need.

We believe that through the everyday adventure of Scouting, young people and adult volunteers regularly experience new challenges that enrich and change their lives.

The current focus for the Trustees and those in Scouting in the UK is delivering our strategic vision, Skills For Life.

Our Mission

Scouting actively engages and supports young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Our Vision

By 2023 we will have prepared more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders delivering an inspiring programme across a well-managed provision throughout Cleveland.

Across Cleveland, we will...

- be growing, more inclusive, shaped by young people and making a bigger impact in our communities
- focus on what matters: and the actions that will increase the impact of Scouting
- maximise our impact; doing less, doing it well, supporting and embedding
- make volunteering as easy as possible; keeping it practical and simple
- work together; sharing and collaborating in keeping with our culture

Our Strategic Objectives

We want Cleveland Scouts to continue to be a County that is:

- **Growing:** We believe Scouts changes lives so we want to give every young person the opportunity to join.
- **Inclusive.** Everyone, regardless of their background, should be able to participate in Scouts.
- **Youth Shaped.** Every young person should be shaping their experience and delivering their leadership potential.
- **Making a significant Community Impact:** Through community impact projects, Scouts makes a difference not just to the individual but to whole communities.

Our Pillars of Work

To meet our strategic objectives, we will focus on these three pillars of work:

- **Programme:** Ensuring we offer a fun, enjoyable, high quality programme consistently delivered and supported by simple (digital) tools.
- **People:** Building our team so that we have more, well trained, better supported and motivated adult volunteers, and more young people from diverse backgrounds.
- **Perception:** Scouting is understood, more visible, trusted, respected and widely seen as playing a key role in society today.