



# Group Scout Leader

**Information for anyone considering  
the role of Group Scout Leader for  
10<sup>th</sup> Bishop's Stortford (St Joseph's)**

# About us

## Overview of Scouting

We are 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.



## 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.

## Our strategy

A new strategic plan for Scouting across the UK is currently nearing completion to secure a strategic direction through to 2023 and to grow on the success of the current plan. Team UK (the team of commissioners that leads Scouting across the UK) will play a key part in leading the delivery of this strategy. More details on the work towards our new plan are available at [www.scouts.org.uk/ourplan](http://www.scouts.org.uk/ourplan).



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**By 2023 we will have prepared more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders delivering an inspiring programme. We will be growing, more inclusive, shaped by young people and making a bigger impact in our communities.**

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Further information on our strategic objectives are provided on our website at [www.scouts.org.uk/ourplan](http://www.scouts.org.uk/ourplan)

## Scouting's fundamentals

### Our mission

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



### Our values

As Scouts, we are guided by these values:

**Integrity**

**Respect**

**Care**

**Belief**

**Co-operation**

Further information on our fundamentals, including details of our values, are provided on our website at

<http://scouts.org.uk/about-us/key-policies/fundamentals-of-scouting/>

# Scouting's key policies

In common with all members in Scouting, Group Scout Leaders are required to promote and follow our key policies. The policies cover:

**Child Protection**

**Equal Opportunities**

**Religion**

**Safety**

These policies are fully explained on our website at <http://scouts.org.uk/about-us/key-policies/>

## 10<sup>th</sup> Bishop's Stortford Scout Group

10<sup>th</sup> Bishop's Stortford Scout Group is made up of three sections. It currently has:

- 11 Beaver Scouts (6 - 8 year olds)
- 10 Cub Scouts (8 - 10½ year olds)
- 28 Scouts (10 ½ - 14 year olds)
- 15 Adults (18+ year olds).

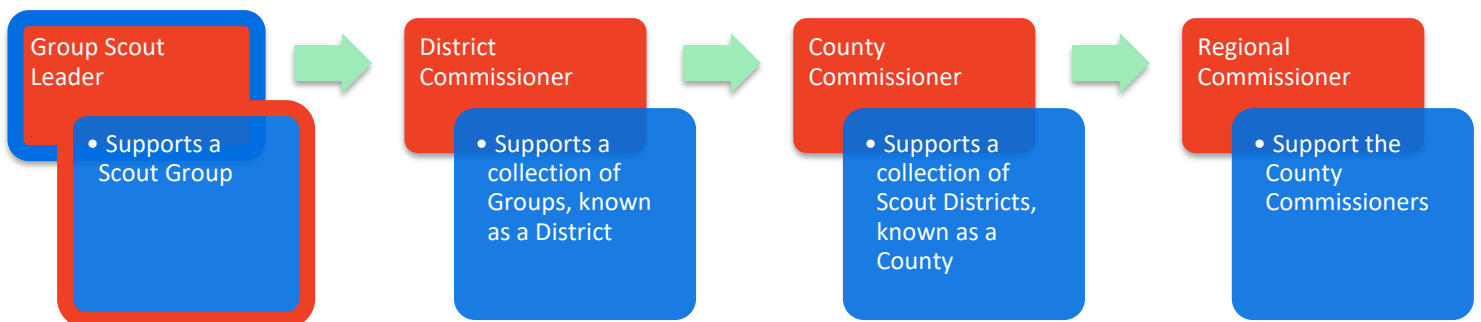
## The current vacancy

We're currently looking for a Group Scout Leader (GSL). This is a management role, and we need someone who can provide leadership, motivation and guidance to our other adult volunteers.

A large part of this voluntary role involves supporting adult volunteers, including those working directly with young people.

Prior experience of Scouting would be an advantage when applying for this role. We'll make sure you're fully trained and supported.

The management structure of Scouting is as follows:



GSLs support adults who work directly with young people to ensure that they are motivated, inspired and focused on providing first-class Scouting. A good manager thanks other volunteers for their hard work, and helps to make sure that they feel happy and supported, week after week.

The GSL will also provide direction for the Scout Group, and will help others see the bigger Scouting picture through solid leadership.

We believe that everyone in management roles within Scouting should adopt an approach that combines the skills of both leadership and management.

## Core Skill Areas

We've identified six core skill areas that make a good Scouting manager:



### 1. Providing direction

A good GSL will create a vision for Scouting in their Group, and provide clear leadership to implement that vision.

### 2. Working with people

It is vital that a GSL can create team spirit amongst the other volunteers they work with, and can form effective working relationships based on trust and the fundamental principles of Scouting:

- integrity
- respect
- care
- belief
- cooperation

### 3. Achieving results

Good GSLs ensure that goals are achieved, plans are seen through to completion, and that good relationships are maintained, both with the parents of the young people in the Scout Group, and within the local community.

### 4. Enabling change

It is important for GSLs to encourage volunteers to think of creative ways to improve Scouting in their Group. They should then provide the support to implement appropriate changes.

### 5. Using resources

A good GSL will ensure that information and resources are available, helping volunteers in their Group provide excellent Scouting opportunities to young people.

### 6. Managing time and personal skills

A good GSL should use their time effectively, and be willing to continue to learn and improve their skills.

# How to apply

## Process

Thank you for your interest in volunteering. On the following pages you will find a role description and the person specification. The GSL nomination and application forms are on pages 9 and 10.

You can apply for the role yourself using the application form, or nominate someone else using the nomination form. Nominated people are under no commitment to apply unless they wish to.

Shortlisting will be based solely on the information provided by each candidate in their application form. All applications should address the requirements of the role, as laid out in the role description and person specification.

## Key dates

For an informal chat, to register your interest, or to nominate a friend, please contact us by **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May**.

The closing date for formal applications is **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**.

## Further information

For more information, or for an informal chat about this vacancy, please contact:

Name: Maureen Hargrave

Phone: 07542 131980

Email: [ddc@bishopsstortfordscouts.org.uk](mailto:ddc@bishopsstortfordscouts.org.uk)



# The role – Group Scout Leader

## Role description

### Outline:

To manage and support the Scout Group and its Leaders to ensure it runs effectively, and that Scouting within the Group develops in accordance with the rules and policies of The Scout Association.

### Responsible to:

District Commissioner (or deputy, if appropriate).

### Will support:

All adults in the Scout Group.

### Main Contacts:

- Section Leaders and their leadership teams in the Group
- Parents/carers of the young people in the Scout Group
- Group Executive Committee members
- Sponsoring authority of the Group (if applicable)
- Group Scout Active Support Manager
- Other Group Scout Leaders in the District
- District Commissioner, Deputy District Commissioner(s)
- County/Area/Regional Commissioner(s)

### Appointment requirements:

Must complete relevant training (wood badge) within three years of accepting the role. Must be eligible for charity trustee status (member of the Group Executive Committee). It is expected that whilst volunteering for this role you will undertake regulated activity, and as such a DBS check will be required.

### Main Tasks

- Ensure that the Scout Group thrives and has the best systems in place to support adult volunteers and develop the Group – including a Group Executive Committee and Section leadership teams.
- Provide line management and support to the Leaders in the Scout Group, including agreeing objectives, and holding regular support reviews and informal meetings.
- Ensure that the Scout Group has an effective team of enthusiastic adults working effectively together and with others to meet the needs of Scouting in the community.
- Working with the leaders to provide a safe, challenging, exciting and balanced programme for the young people in the Scout Group, so that they have the opportunity to achieve the top Scouting awards.
- Work with the District Commissioner, Deputy District Commissioner(s) and other Group Scout Leaders in the District to ensure that the District thrives and supports Scout Groups.

**Note:** Some of the tasks for which the Group Scout Leader is responsible may be delegated to others in the Group, including a Deputy Group Scout Leader, if appointed.

## Person specification

<b>Knowledge and experience:</b>	
Ability to manage adults effectively	Essential
Understanding of the challenges of working in the voluntary sector	Desirable
Experience of working with young people and/or community work with adult groups	Desirable
Experience of the Scout or Guide Movements	Desirable
<b>Skills and abilities:</b>	
Provides inspirational leadership for the Group	Essential
Provides advice and guidance effectively to others	Essential
Excellent communication skills	Essential
Builds, maintains and facilitates effective working relationships with a wide range of people	Essential
Enables others to identify issues, clarify objectives, develop attainable objectives and gain the necessary skills and confidence to work as an effective team	Essential
Ability to negotiate compromises	Essential
Plans, manages and monitors own tasks and time	Essential
Develops long-term plans that improve and expand the Scouting offered to young people, and identify any training, resources and other needs required to undertake this work	Essential
Can use basic computer software	Essential
<b>Personal qualities:</b>	
An understanding of the needs of adult volunteers	Essential
Flexible approach	Essential
Self-motivated	Essential
Able to work as part of a team and promote good teamwork	Essential
Resourceful, energetic and enthusiastic about the job	Essential
Acceptance of the fundamentals of the Scout Movement	Essential



# Nomination Form

If you think you know the right person for this Group Scout Leader role, please complete the nomination form below. Nominating an individual does not commit them to applying, but, if they choose to, they will be required to complete a more thorough application form.

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## Nominee's details

Name	
Telephone number	
Email address	
Please outline why you felt motivated to nominate this person for the role of Group Scout Leader:	

## Your details

Nominated by	
Telephone number	
Email address	

Please return this form to:	Maureen Hargrave ddc@bishopsstortfordscouts.org.uk
The closing date for receiving nominations is:	14 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
Is this person aware of your nomination?	

# Application Form

If you are interested in applying for this Group Scout Leader role, please complete the application form below.

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Name	
Telephone number	
Email address	
Please outline why you want to apply for the role of Group Scout Leader:	
Please briefly explain why you would be suitable for this role, including professional and voluntary experience, within or outside Scouting (refer to role description):	
Please describe the skills you would bring to this role (refer to person specification):	
Please return this form to:	William Compton dc@bishopsstortfordscouts.org.uk
The closing date for receiving applications is:	Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021