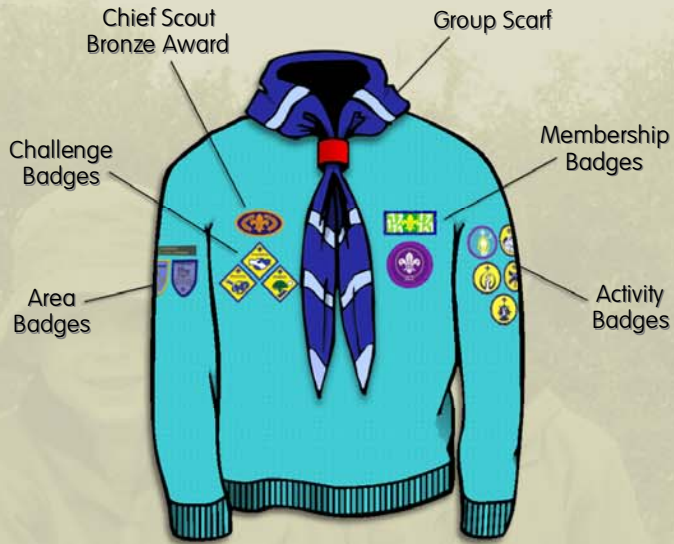


GENERAL INFORMATION



The official Beaver Scout Uniform consists of a turquoise sweatshirt and group scarf, which can be purchased for around £15. However, there are a few optional extras available to accompany the uniform including a turquoise polo shirt, navy blue activity trousers, navy blue activity shorts and a baseball cap...all recognised and endorsed by the Scout Association.

Many scout groups will have a supply of the uniform available at their headquarters, but in some cases you may be required to purchase them elsewhere. Beaver uniforms, as well as many other scouting resources are available online at scouting.outdoors.ltd.uk or you can visit the Cambridge Scout Shop.

CAMBRIDGE SCOUT SHOP

The Cambridge Scout Shop has been in business since 1918. It stocks everything you could possibly need for scouting, including uniforms, books and camping equipment. You can find the Scout Shop at 195 Peme Road, Cambridge or phone (01223) 248768. The Scout Shop is open between 6:45-8:30pm on Mondays and Wednesdays, and 3:00-5:00pm on the first Saturday of every month (except Bank Holiday weekends) during school term time. The Scout Shop is closed throughout the school holidays so if you are in doubt about whether it is open, always phone beforehand.

If you would like more information about Scouting in and around Cambridge, why not visit the Cambridge District website at www.cambridgescouts.org.uk



BEAVER SCOUTING in CAMBRIDGE

	1st Fen Ditton	Fen Ditton Church (<i>Fen Ditton</i>)	Fri
	11th/9th Cambridge	Newnham Croft School (<i>Newnham</i>)	Thu
	12th Cambridge	Gilbert Road (<i>Arbury</i>)	Wed
	13th Cambridge	Cyprus Road (<i>Romsey</i>)	Tue
	14th Cambridge	Victoria Road (<i>Arbury</i>)	Wed
	16th Cambridge	Wulfstan Way (<i>Queen Ediths</i>)	Mon
	18th Cambridge	Mansel Way (<i>Arbury</i>)	Thu
	26th Cambridge	Logan's Way (<i>Chesterton</i>)	Tue
	27th Cambridge	British Legion Hall (<i>Cherry Hinton</i>)	Tue
	28th Cambridge	Flamsteed Road (<i>Coleridge</i>)	Wed
	29th Cambridge	Stanesfield Road (<i>Abbey</i>)	Thu
	32nd Cambridge	Waterbeach School (<i>Waterbeach</i>)	Mon
	50th Cambridge	Milton Community Centre (<i>Milton</i>)	Mon
	54th Cambridge	Shirley School (<i>Chesterton</i>)	Thu
	57th Cambridge	Home End, Fulbourn (<i>Fulbourn</i>)	Thu

For information about your nearest colony, please contact:

Chris Ward - District Communications

EMAIL: chris.ward@cambridgescouts.org.uk TEL: (01480) 300040

MY NEAREST COLONY

STARTS

COLONY REPRESENTATIVE

DAY

CONTACT INFORMATION



BEAVER SCOUTING



SCOUTING FOR AGES 6-8

WHAT IS BEAVER SCOUTING?

Beaver Scouts are boys and girls usually aged between six and eight years old. They belong to the first and youngest section in the Scouting family. Young people can join Beaver Scouts in the three months leading up to their sixth birthday and can move to the next section, Cub Scouts, between eight and eight years six months.

Easily recognised by their distinctive turquoise sweatshirts, Beaver Scouts enjoy making friends, playing games, going on visits and helping others. They usually meet together once a week in a Beaver Scout Colony.

Some Beaver Scout Colonies also organise Sleepovers. These are often the first time a young person spends a night away from home. They take place in suitable buildings, often Scout centres.

WHERE DOES BEAVER SCOUTING COME FROM?

Beaver Scouting was officially introduced by the Scout Association in 1986 thanks to many successful trials around the country in the early 1980s. Originating from Northern Ireland and Canada, Beaver Scouting provides an opportunity to experience the adventure that scouting has to offer from as young as 5¾ years of age. Originally, a young person would have to wait until their eighth birthday before they could join the Scout Movement as a Cub Scout.

Through the years, the Scout Association has introduced many ceremonies, parades and activities made specifically for Beaver Scouting. Nowadays, Beaver Scouting is widely available with many Scout Groups opting to start up a colony.

AIM OF BEAVER SCOUTING

The aim of Beaver scouting is to provide a programme of fun, engaging, attractive activities which allows children to discover and develop their own talents. Getting to know other people, learning about them self, exploring the world around them, discovering creative & practical skills, plus discovering beliefs & attitudes are all included. The programme is fulfilled through weekly colony meetings, with each colony taking responsibility for its own activities.

BEAVER SCOUTING IN CAMBRIDGE

Today, there are 15 Beaver Colonies in the Cambridge Scout District. Colonies can be found across the entire city, stretching as far as Fen Ditton, Milton, Fulbourn and Waterbeach. Each colony has its own identity, resources and set of scout leaders.

COST OF BEAVER SCOUTING

Beaver Scouting costs between £15-£30 per term depending on the Scout Group, making it much cheaper than most other kids clubs. This cost covers the activities, facility hire and membership.

JOINING A COLONY

If a young person wishes to become a Beaver Scout, their first task is to find a colony they would like to join. Many parents choose a colony based on where they live, what day they meet or the price of the subscription fee. Whatever you decide, it is best to talk to a representative of the colony, such as the Beaver Scout Leader or Group Scout Leader who will advise you on what steps to take next. They may advise that the young person be added to their waiting list if the colony is full at the present time.

When a place becomes available, the Beaver Scout Leader of the group will invite the young person to attend their first Beaver Scout meeting. From this point onwards, the young person will work towards becoming a Beaver Scout.

INVESTITURE

In order for a young person to become a Beaver Scout, certain requirements must be met. A young person should attend at least four beaver meetings, learn about the people and ceremonies of the colony and know a bit about the history of scouting. Finally, once all of the criteria is met, a young person will partake in a short investiture ceremony where they must recite the Beaver Promise. They will then be given their Membership Badges, group scarf, investiture certificate and officially becoming a Beaver Scout and a Member of the worldwide Scout Movement.

THE BEAVER SCOUT PROMISE

'I promise to do my best,
To be kind and helpful,
And to love my God.'

WELCOME TO SCOUTING

Beaver Scouts like to try new activities and be recognised for their achievements. Like the other scouting sections, Beaver Scouts are encouraged to have fun and make friends by helping others, playing games, going outdoors, being creative, acting, singing, chatting and much, much more. Many of the activities carried out in the weekly colony meetings are specially designed to allow Beaver Scouts to demonstrate personal development and creativity, for which they will be awarded with 'badges'.

Badges are used to symbolise that a scout has excelled in the tasks assigned to them as acknowledged by the Scout Association. There is a total of 22 badges to earn as a Beaver Scout, with each one representing a different development quality. When a Beaver earns a badge they can wear it proudly on their uniform.

**THE BADGES**

There are three types of badges that Beaver Scouts can earn:



The diamond shaped *CHALLENGE* Badges (Outdoors, Friendship & Discovery) form the foundation of the 5 programme zones and all weekly colony meetings.



The round *ACTIVITY* Badges complement the programme by setting specific tasks branching off from the Challenge Badges. There are 12 in total ranging from 'Animal Friend' to 'Healthy Eating' and 'Safety'.



The dark round *STAGED* Badges show development in certain key skills (Nights Away, Hiking, First Aid, IT, Swimming and Music). Staged Badges progress and develop throughout the other Scout sections, which means a scout will have to demonstrate more advanced skills as they get older in order to acquire them. This ensures continuity throughout the sections.

CHIEF SCOUT BRONZE AWARD

The Chief Scout Bronze Award is the highest badge a Beaver Scout can earn. It symbolises great achievement in all areas covered in Beaver Scouting. In order to get this badge, a Beaver is expected to complete the Outdoors Challenge, then either the Discovery or Friendship Challenge, as well as a personal challenge set by the leaders.

CAMBRIDGE DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

About once a term, the District will invite all of its colonies to take part in a special Beaver Scouting event. In October the District organises an Activity Day at one of the local camp sites, giving Beavers the opportunity to get together and enjoy a day of crafts and games on a larger scale, ending with the traditional campfire and camp songs. In December, Beavers are invited to a Christmas Party where they'll play games and be greeted by a special seasonal guest! In April, all Scout sections meet together to celebrate St George's Day with another dose of organised activities and Promise renewals.

Other District events include a Hike, an Outing (which in previous years has been to Legoland and Colchester Zoo) a Craft Competition and a District Beaver Sleepover, which allows Beaver Scouts to experience a 'night away' in Scouting.

Finally, Beavers will have the chance to take part in the County Beaveree, a huge Activity Day for Beavers from all over Cambridgeshire.

