

Explorer Scout Young Leader Training

Joshua Marshall – Cromwell Young Leader Team Leader

Introduction of Cromwell Young Leader Team Lead

- Joshua Marshall
- Took on coordinating the Cromwell Young Leader Scheme in November 2024
- Been part of Scouting for 14 years. Began as a Beaver when I was 6 years old
- Completed YL Award in 2020
- Taken part in two WSJ's one as participant in 2019 and one as Lead in IST offsite transport in 2023
- Unit Team member for Poland 2027
- Began running Wyton Cubs in 2023
- UK HQ 18-25 Youth Representative



Young Leaders' Scheme

Welcome

What are we aiming to cover?

- Brief Introduction to the Young Leader Scheme
- How to register YLs within your District
- YL tasks and responsibilities
- Suggested ways to run training
- Suggestions to build up a support network
- Additional Training Opportunities
- Transition into adult volunteering roles
- Q+A/Discussion

What is the YL Scheme?

The Explorer Scout Young Leaders' Scheme (ESYLS) is the learning programme for Young Leaders. It contains 11 modules and 4 missions for them to work through whilst volunteering in their chosen section.

As well as developing valuable life skills, the scheme is an opportunity for Explorers to make a positive impact in their communities and to fulfil the service elements of many of the Top Awards in Scouts, or their Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Recognition of achievement is available along the way, and on completion of the Scheme.

Young Leaders...

- Are Explorer Scouts (13.5 – 18 years old) who help lead Younger People (Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, and Squirrels)
- Have the support of their own Leaders, as well as of the Leaders in the section they're helping
- Work towards the Young Leader Award by completing training ('Modules') and challenges ('Missions') while volunteering
- Must complete Module A within 3 months of starting
- Cannot work unsupervised
- Must not share accommodation on camp with adults or Scouts under 18
- Must have parental permission when attending events or camps

Explorer Scout Unit Member

- Is invested into Scouting within their unit
- Wears Explorer Scout Uniform
- Attends regular meetings
- Volunteers as a YL in one of the junior sections
- Can take part in the Scouting programme and achieve badges/awards
- YL Training delivered by YL Team
- Should wait 6-12 months before helping their old Scout troop

Young Leader Unit Member

- Is invested into Scouting within their unit
- Wears Explorer Scout Uniform
- Volunteers as a YL in one of the junior sections
- Can take part in the Scouting programme and achieve badges/awards by talking to the YL Team Lead
- YL Training delivered by YL Team
- Should wait 6-12 months before helping their old Scout troop

Non-member volunteer (DOfE)

- Can volunteer in any section for the length of time of their award
- Don't wear uniform
- Cannot take part in the rest of the Scouting programme
- Must end their role when they finish their length for their award or join the YL unit
- Not covered by standard scouting insurance

What do YLs have to compete?

Compulsory:

Module A – within first three months

Optional:

10 Modules (excluding Mod A)

Four Missions



What are the modules?

Module B - Taking the lead

Module C - That's the way to do it!

Module D - Understanding behaviour

Module E - Game on!

Module F - Making Scouting accessible and inclusive

Module G - What is a high quality programme?

Module H - Programme planning

Module I - What did they say?

Module J - Communicate it!

Module K - First aid masterclass

What are the missions?

Mission 1:

Plan and run a minimum of 3 games, a mix of indoors and outdoors

Mission 2:

Plan and run an activity (not a game)

Mission 3:

Take the section's ideas to a programme planning meeting

Mission 4:

Take responsibility for organising and running part of the programme



What badges do they earn?

- They will earn a Mission leaf badge when you complete each mission
- When they complete all of the modules and missions, they will be able to wear the prestigious Young Leader Belt
- If they earn the Young Leader Belt, and then become an adult volunteer they're entitled to wear the Young Leader Adult Recognition Badge for life



What can a YL do?

- Programme Support
- Lead and Run Games
- Help Deliver Activities
- Plan and run part of a meeting
- Take attendance
- Buddy up with nervous members
- Help with ceremonies
- Set up before the meeting

Most things that an adult volunteer can do!



How are Young Leaders Registered?

Each District should maintain an up-to-date record of all Young Leaders within the District, enabling accurate annual reporting for the census.

These records should also include each Young Leader's training history and their progress through the scheme.

Some Districts may choose to use OSM to collate this information centrally, with Groups sharing their Young Leader records directly into the District's system.

All 13.5-18yr olds completing the scheme must be registered whether they are a DofE Volunteer, Explorer Scout or Young Leader.

How can you run training opportunities?

Modules can be delivered using a variety of methods and models.

They can be delivered in the Explorer Scout Unit, in the ESYLs Unit, at a District Explorer Scout Young Leader's Camp, or even as part of a hike or adventurous activity day.

Scouting is all about learning through doing. The more interactive and engaging the session, the more skills and knowledge gained.

ESYLs will be able to apply their newfound skills when they are supporting their section and working towards their missions.



How can you support your YLs?

- Regular Check-in's
- Drop in's for YLs
- Main District Contact for any concerns
- Group "YL Mentors"
- Regular training opportunities
- Good communication
- Resource area



Do you know about our Young Leader Online Resources?



Scan the QR code above to access our new online resource page

Additional Training Opportunities

BTEC Level 2 in Teamwork and Personal Development in the Community

- Funded Qualification for anyone aged 16-19 years old
- One Mandatory Module and Choice of additional
- 5 Additional Units for Diploma or 2 for Extended Certificate
- If completed DoFE and YL Scheme then can tick off around 90% of the award via RPL
- One “in-person” event fully supported by YL Team and CVC

Sunday 27th September 2026



Cadet
Vocational
College

Scouts



Scan to view dates
of Unit 1 tutorials

BTEC Level 2

Teamwork and Personal Development
in the Community (TPD)

Unit	Title			Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)	Select Units
1	Mandatory Unit Developing Effective Teamwork Skills			Explorer Scouts Young Leader Belt Buckle (completion of) Bronze DoFE Exped (or higher) Teamwork Challenge Award Chief Scouts Gold Award (or higher)	☐
Now choose any 5 units for the Diploma or any 2 units for the Extended Certificate					
2	Developing Effective Communication Skills			Explorer Scouts Young Leader Belt Buckle (completion of) Bronze DoFE Exped (or higher) Platinum Award (or higher) Scouts First Response Training Sports Leader (Level 1 or higher) Community Sports Leader (Level 3)	☐
3	Preparing for Employment			No RPL mapped - Employability Skills Workshop	☐
4	Improving Health and Fitness for Personal Wellbeing			Bronze DoFE Physical (or higher) GCSE PE - Grade 4+	☐
5	Personal Development through Adventurous Activities			No RPL mapped - 2 adventurous activities	☐
6	Land Navigation by Map and Compass			Bronze DoFE Exped (or higher) Hill Walking Permit & Scouts: Navigator Stage 4 Platinum Award (or higher)	☐
7	Expedition Skills			Bronze DoFE Exped (or higher) Chief Scouts Gold Award (or higher)	☐
8	Fundamental Seamanship Skills			RYA Power Level 2 or YSS Sailing Stage 3 (or higher)	☐
9	Volunteering in the Community			Explorer Scouts Young Leader Belt Buckle (completion of) Bronze DoFE Volunteering (or higher) National Citizen Service (NCS) Platinum Award (or higher) Community Impact Stage 2 Award	☐
10	Citizenship and Community Awareness			GCSE Citizenship - Grade 4+	☐
11	Developing Leadership Skills			Explorer Scouts Young Leader Belt Buckle (completion of) Sports Leader (Level 1 or higher) Community Sports Leader (Level 2) Explorer Scouts Instructor Activity Badge	☐
12	Planning and Creating a Music Product			No RPL mapped - practice log & video evidence	☐
13	Solo Music Performance			No RPL mapped - practice log & video evidence	☐
14	Working as a Musical Ensemble			No RPL mapped - practice log & video evidence	☐

ACTION! - Please send evidence of your RPL to tpd@cvcollege.org

Top Awards

Duke of Edinburgh (Bronze, Silver and Gold)

Platinum Award

Diamond Award

King Scout Award

YouShape Award



Transition into adult roles

Many YLs may wish to continue scouting in one form or another once they turn 18 years old.

Can begin the paperwork at 17.5 years.

Module K (First Aid) can be transferred into their adult role.

Remember they can continue Scouting at University

Network Opportunities

Scouting does not have to stop when they turn 18!