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The Group

Welcome to the 9th Lewisham North. If your child has been a cub with us you will already know about the way the Group works. We are a friendly and active Group with leaders and helpers dedicated to delivering modern and motivating Scouting in a fun, safe and exciting way.

Scouting aims to satisfy a young person's desires for fun and adventure provided through engaging and active programmes. It provides opportunities for young people to develop the qualities that make good citizens; self-discipline, dependability, respect for others and self-reliance.

Young people learn by doing. Scouting offers activities to capture their imagination and enable each individual to find something in which to participate, develop skills and gain confidence. As far as possible, these activities take place outdoors as in camping, hiking, caving, sailing and many others, alongside a training programme which is structured from Beaver Scouts to Explorer Scouts.

Scouting builds on home & school experiences and assists in character development. Many of our former scouts have used their scouting experiences to move on to employment or further education. Scouting offers a unique enrichment experience and teaches young people many skills which employers and universities favour. We hope your child will enjoy the new challenge and build on the skills he/she has already acquired.

Scout Section

As you probably know Scouts is the last of the sections in our group which your child may progress through until he/she is between 14 and 15 years old. After this he/she may choose to join the District Explorer Scout Unit,

The troop operates quite differently from the Beaver Colony and Cub Pack as the young people themselves take on more responsibility. However, it still needs a lot of adult support as activities are much more varied and adventurous.

The Troop meets on Mondays from 7.45 to 9.15 pm. Scouts should arrive by 7.40, ready for the Scout meeting.

The adults your child will come in contact with during his time in Scouting have been vetted through a CRB process to ensure their suitability to work with young people. The leaders take part in a comprehensive training programme including First Aid Training. For activities such as Archery, Caving, Canoeing, Mountaineering, Hiking etc. we have a number of trained leaders to take charge of these events and they will do everything they can to ensure your child's safety.

Our innovative approach to scouting has seen the introduction of a Facebook Group for use by older scouts and an online blog. *(If you are concerned about your child having a facebook account we suggest that a parent also creates an account and adds their child as a friend so you can keep an eye on what they write on their wall).*

If you have a query at any time please ask one of the troop leaders. The best time to ask a question is usually at the beginning or end of the meeting when there is more time available. If you require further clarification on Scouting matters please contact Jamie Wheeler, Group Manager.

Don't forget to visit the scout association website at www.scoutbase.org.uk if you haven't already done so. If you don't have access to the Internet and would like any specific information please ask and we will make sure you receive paper copies.

The Patrol System

Our Scout Troop uses the 'Patrol System', which encourages the older Scouts to develop their abilities and be able to be responsible for others. A Patrol is usually made up of four to six Scouts, which is led by a Patrol Leader who has an Assistant Patrol Leader.

Some of the tasks that older Scouts can be asked to undertake are; put forward ideas for activities, help to maintain discipline, encourage team spirit, organise activities at a Troop meeting and accept responsibility for leading teams taking part in District competitions.

Aims of the Scout Programme

The Scout Troop aims to provide a range of activities which challenge young people and help them to develop a range of skills, which can include the following: management of a team, teamwork, planning, organise, leadership, show initiative and take responsibility. It also seeks to teach life skills such as cooking, navigation and generally how to look after themselves.

Our aim is to provide a balanced programme of activities during your child's time as a Scout. There are six Programme Zones in the Scout Section. They are:

Beliefs and Attitudes, Community, Fit for Life, Creative Expression, Global, Outdoor, Adventure

Scouts will be given the opportunity to take part in:

- Activities outdoors
- Games
- Design and creativity
- Visits and visitors
- Service (e.g. assisting with the younger sections)
- Technology and new skills
- Team-building activities
- Activities with others
- Themes
- Prayer, worship and reflection.

Please visit <http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/6to25/scout/programme/index.htm> for full details.

Uniform

The Scout Uniform comprises:

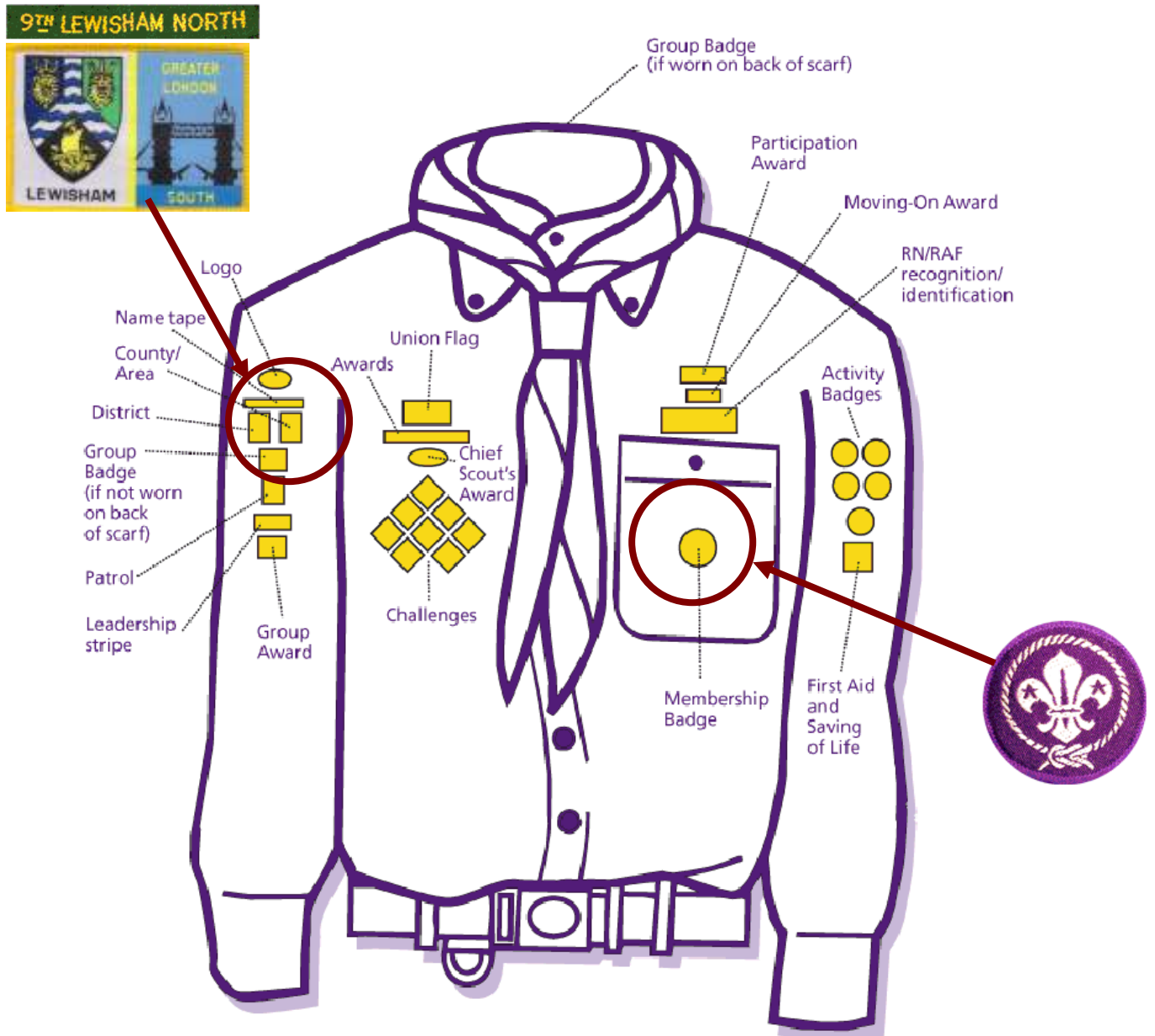
- Dark Green long-sleeved shirt
- Black or Grey School Style Trousers and Shoes . Although we encourage all Scouts to wear shoes to the start of the meeting it is not compulsory for those members still at primary school.

For all meetings uniform should always be well presented. Trainers and t-shirts / joggers may be brought to change into for games etc.

If you are new to the Group your Group scarf and leather woggle will be awarded at your child's investiture. (Replacements can be obtained from Martin for a small sum.) Scout shirts and other optional items such as Scout trousers and T-shirts can be obtained from Whitehall Clothiers: 244a Lewisham High Street, London SE13 6JU Tel: 020 8852 8967. Alternatively items can be ordered on-line from the Scout Shop; www.scoutshops.com.

Positioning the Badges

The following diagram shows where badges need to be positioned on the Scout Uniform.



Awards



There are nine Challenge awards within the section as follows:-

- The Outdoor Challenge*
- The Outdoor Plus Challenge
- The Creative Challenge*
- The Fitness Challenge*
- The Global Challenge*
- The Community Challenge*
- The Adventure Challenge
- The Expedition Challenge
- The Promise Challenge*

The highest award within the Troop section is the Chief's Scout Gold Award, and in order to achieve this a Scout needs to have attained all of the challenges marked with an asterisk plus two of the others.

A range of 69 activity badges supplements these core awards.

Many of the skills needed to pass the awards are gained through practical experience and sometimes it may appear that basic Scouting Skills are being repeated. This is to ensure that the basic knowledge is being retained and can be put to use at camp or in competitions. It is also often the difference in being able to do something oneself and to instruct others to do the same thing.

Core skills such as Camping, Navigation, Hiking and Pioneering are a theme throughout all of these certificates, examples of the items are:-

- Pitch, strike and store a tent correctly.
- Prepare, cook, serve and clear away a meal and a hot drink out of doors using an open fire.
- Complete with suitable equipment, a one-day expedition with friends by foot, navigating using map and compass.
- Demonstrate the correct use of six knots, bends or hitches used in Scouting activities.
- Take an active part in a pioneering project out of doors with your Patrol.
- Lead others on a hike, which includes setting a map, taking compass bearings, map references and knowledge of Ordnance Survey conventional signs.
- Plan and use a balanced menu for a weekend camp for your Patrol.
- Take a leading part in a pioneering project, which demonstrates the correct use of at least two different types of lashing.
- Plan a route for an expedition; describe by map reading what you would expect to see; go on the journey and report back to your Patrol what you saw and did.

Other aspects of scouting are covered by:-

- Writing an account of a Patrol activity in which you took part, for a newsletter, magazine or newspaper, or design and produce advertising material for an event or activity.
- Demonstrating the correct use of the Union flag and your Troop flag or colours.



The Scout Promise

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 Law

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

The Investiture

This event usually takes place after your child has been with the Troop for approximately one month. The Scout Leader will ask your child to repeat the words of the promise after him. The Scout will then be presented with various items including a scarf, a log book and badges for his uniform. This is an important occasion and parents are invited to attend.

Camp Kit List



Scouts have involvement in planning what they do at camp and will be given the opportunity to do their own cooking. Scouts have the opportunity to attend various Camp activities and might therefore want to think about purchasing more serious items such as hiking boots, sleeping bag, waterproof etc during their scouting career. The Group provides tents, groundsheets and extensive cooking materials.

The following is a suggestion when packing for camp:

Rucksack - Sleeping Bag* - Sleeping mat – Torch – Waterproof Outer Garment - Warm fleece - Training shoes - Hiking boots* or strong shoes - - T-Shirts – Shorts - Long trousers not jeans - Swimming costume - Night wear - Spare underclothes/socks - Wash kit/towel

(* If you require any advice on these items, Martin will be pleased to offer help.)

Moving on to Explorer Scouts

Your child will be eligible to move on to Explorer Scouts between the ages of 14 1/2 and 15 years old. By this time you should be very familiar with the scout movement and know what to expect. We hope your child will continue to enjoy scouting and maybe consider putting something back into the Group by becoming a Young Leader. The Explorer Unit draws its membership from a wider community.

Main Events in the Group Calendar

Scouting Activities

There are a number of activities which are specific to scouts. When letters are issued, there is usually a tear-off slip where you can indicate whether or not your child will be attending. Please return these as soon as possible as this is a considerable help when planning transport, food and so on. If money is required, please can this be returned with the reply slip with a cheque unless cash is specifically requested.

Many of our activities will be planned by the young people under the supervision of the leaders. We try to have at least two camps per year including our week long summer camp and also support every district completion. There are also various trips and events throughout the year.

The Troop has a variety of activities each year and examples of this are set out below:-

Ad-Hoc Trips	Visits to London, Alton Towers, Ice Skating, Bowling
District Competitions	Sports day, Quiz, Football, Hockey.
Wayfarers Hike	A daytime hike competition for under 13's
Stag Trophy	A night hike for older Scouts (13 – 15)
May Camp	A weekend camp for all Scouts
Patrol Leaders training weekend	A Camp open to all potential Patrol Leaders
Summer Camp (1 Week)	This is the highlight of the year and as far as the leaders are concerned it is what each year's programme should build towards.
Service Projects	Examples are assisting the Cub Pack, Fundraising through bag Packing

Subscriptions

Membership subscriptions are levied three times a year at the start of each term. They are calculated on an annual basis and revised annually. You will receive a request for payment in the first weeks of term and will be asked to post monies to the Subscriptions Co-ordinator.

The current subscription for Scouts is £75 per annum (£25 per term).

Gift Aid

We operate a 'Gift Aid' scheme to increase our fundraising by the reclamation of tax on Covenanted Subscriptions.. The Scout Group reclaims the tax as a recognised and registered charity in the same way as other well known charities e.g. Cancer Research. The tax is reclaimed as it has already been paid through the donor's taxed income. This means that for every £1 of subscriptions you pay the group can claim back 22p.

This is obviously a very advantageous method of the group increasing its annual income and is put to good use in the equipment and activities that the group provides.

You will be prompted to donate in this way when paying your subscription - please do so if you can.

Contact Details

There is a complete list of all adults who do voluntary work for the Group, with their addresses and phone numbers, at the Scout Centre. Details below should be sufficient to enable to contact anyone you might need to speak with. If you are interested in joining the team – there is usually room for more help!

Leaders

Group Manager	:	Jamie Wheeler	07745 116064	mail@jamiewheeler.co.uk
Scout Leader	:	Martin Butcher	07956 389267	scouts@9thlewishamnorth.co.uk
Assistants / Instructors	:	Colin Ryder Steven Martin Tom Wheeler		

Appendix – Information Forms

Family Information Form

FAMILY INFORMATION FORM

To help your child's leader please provide the following details

CONTACT INFORMATION

Child's name:.....

.....

Gender: M / F.....

Date of birth:.....

Religion:

Child's address:.....

.....

.....

Child's email address (if applicable):

.....

Parental name:

Parental contact tel no. 1:

.....

Parental contact tel no. 2:

.....

Parental email address:

.....

Alternative contact name (please state relationship):

.....

Alternative contact tel no.:

.....

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Please list any medical conditions, allergies or special requirements your child has (full information on the appropriate way to cater for these should also be given to your child's leader):

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Please give details of any dietary requirements your child has:

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Continued overleaf



FAMILY INFORMATION FORM

FURTHER INFORMATION

Parent(s) occupation(s)

.....

Have you or your partner/spouse ever been a member of the Scout or Guide Movement?

Mother - yes / no

Father - yes / no

Time available per week/month/year for assisting with the Group:

.....

Please give details of any skills or hobbies you have that could contribute to the running of the Group or the provision of activities: eg, first aid, DIY or office administrative skills.

.....

.....

Parental signature:

.....

Data Protection

All information given will be used in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Information given will only be used in connection with your son/daughter's membership of the Scout Movement in the United Kingdom.

The Scout Association, at all levels, may itself use your contact details (post and email) to keep in touch with you about Scouting. However, by law we need your express permission for certain direct marketing services. By giving this permission we can provide you with access to additional opportunities and services.

Please tick the box if you are happy to be contacted:

I am content to receive details by post and email about new products and services being promoted directly to The Scout Association or its subsidiary companies.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO YOUR CHILDS LEADER.

Gift Aid Form



GIFT AID DECLARATION

_____ Scout Group

Title _____ Forename(s) _____ Surname _____

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

I would like the Scout Group to treat

**all payments I make on or after the 6th of April 2000 in respect of the member
subscription for the Group**

as Gift Aid donations.

Date ____/____/____

Notes

1. You must pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax we reclaim on the payments (currently 28p for every £1 you give).
2. You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the Scout Group.
3. Please notify the Scout Group if you change your name or address.

New Gift Aid version 3



RELEASE FORM VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHY

9th Lewisham North Scout Group

CHILD'S NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

.....

TEL:..... E-MAIL:.....

I give permission for the child named above to be photographed and filmed whilst in the care of the 9th Lewisham North Scout Group (either at Beavers Cubs or Scouts) at meetings, as part of badge work and on trips and outings with the Scout Group.

I also give permission for the recorded materials (either photographs or video) to be used in promotional activities by the 9th Lewisham North Scout Group.

I also hereby confirm that I am over 18 years old and legally entitled to give permission for the individual named above to take part in this project.

By signing below I am agreeing to all of the terms as set out above and confirming my understanding of them.

SIGNED:.....

PRINT NAME:.....

RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD:.....

FORM CHECKED

SIGNED:..... On behalf of Scout Group