3rd Harpenden Scout Group
Waiting List policy

Contents

What is this Waiting List Policy? 2
Capacity of our three Sections ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Waiting Lists 2
Priority Criteria 2
Offers 3
Version number and date of the last review 3

What is this Waiting List Policy?

Our Scout Group only has a formal waiting list for Beavers. Those wishing to join Cubs or Scouts must join the District waiting list and will be assigned the first available place at any group in the District. Children are usually offered a place in Beavers to start on the term following their 6th birthday – although there is some flexibility with this rule depending on circumstances.

We want to ensure that as many children as possible can access Scouting and that applications are handled fairly and consistently. We are a popular Scout Group, and occasionally Beaver places are oversubscribed.

Waiting Lists

To join the Beavers waiting list you must fill in the form on the website at https://www.3rdharpendenscouts.org.uk/join or email waitinglist.3rdharpenden@gmail.com

To join the District waiting list for a place in Cubs or Scouts in any group in the Harpenden and Wheathampstead District, you must visit https://harpendenscouts.org.uk/Join/WaitingList

Priority Criteria

Places will be offered on a termly basis (starting in January, April (after Easter) and September) to children on the waiting list who are old enough to join, using the following priority criteria in this order.

1. A child whose parent/carer is already volunteering as Section Leader, Section Assistant, Team Volunteer, Trustee Board member or a formal role in the Scout District.
2. A child with one or more siblings who are already members of the Group. Parents/carers must still register each individual child on the waiting list.
3. A child whose parent/carer newly volunteers to actively help the Scout Group or District. The new volunteer will be expected to reliably help out for a reasonable length of time.
4. Time on waiting list. A young person will not usually be invited to join a Section if their age means that they cannot spend at least 1 year with that Section, as they will not have the opportunity to settle in and progress in earning badges.

There may be circumstances where we have to make an exception to these criteria. But this will be at our discretion and in consultation with the Section Leader and Trustee Board.

The best way to secure a place for your child is to volunteer with us. The whole Scout Group is run by volunteers, and we are always on the lookout for more people to help.

Offers

Offers will be made by email to the email address supplied at the time of application to the waiting list.

If a place is offered and declined (or not acknowledged by the deadline specified in the offer email) your child will be removed from the waiting list, or on your request, transferred to the District waiting list.

If we cannot offer your child a place, we can transfer your child to the District Waiting List, where you can take the next available place at the first local Scout group to offer a space.

Version number and date of the last review

Version number 3

Last reviewed 01-09-2026