



Integrated Prevention and Earliest Help Service and West

Sussex Scouts

Guidance for leaders and managers in Scouting - January 2018

Scouting has been successful in obtaining further funding from West Sussex County Council to continue its relationship supporting parents and guardians to refer their children to try out Scouting. Previously this was known as the 'Think Family' programme. This has now been amalgamated with other services to form the Integrated Prevention and Earliest Help Service, IPEH for short. IPEH continues to provide a key worker that can support the whole family in tackling challenges and difficulties and provides practical support to help families achieve their working goals.

IPEH works with families who are experiencing problems relating to:

- Crime – young people in crime and anti-social behaviour
- Education – Children not in school or with poor attendance
- Worklessness – adults on out of work benefits, and/or
- Experiencing health and social issues

Once a family is well on its way to achieving its goal and the key worker is starting to step back, the family is encouraged to think about longer term plans and goals. This is where Scouting comes in.

How can Scouting Help?

Scouting equips young people with practical skills and valuable life experiences, just the type of experiences children worked with by IPEH could benefit from. With the continued funding workers will be able to support parents/guardians to refer their child to try out Scouting. Referrals will be managed by a member of the District Team and will contact Scouts Groups as and when a young person living local is interested in getting involved.

All Scout Groups are requested to make a space for the child as soon as practically possible; in some situations, this may mean creating an extra place rather than placing the child on a waiting list. This is important to help ensure the positive work started by the worker is maintained and provides the young person with positive role models and influences.

Some families will never have considered Scouting for their children, it may not be in the families culture to engage with community groups and wider society, and there may not be other support mechanisms in place, (relatives living nearby and friends to help with child care, take child on outing etc.,) so please bare this in mind when talking to those children and parents/guardians referred via the Integrated Prevention and Earliest Help Service.

What support is available to help?

Financial help

A new grant has been provided by Integrated Prevention and Earliest Help Service to West Sussex Scouts. The purpose of the fund is to help support these children whilst members of Scouting. This new grant is for a further two years.

The grant can be used to cover the cost of uniform, subs, trips and camps but not International Camps or Jamborees. The family should be encouraged to pay something towards these costs, however Groups should apply for the remaining money to ensure these children can participate in all the activities offered by the section/Group.

To access this fund please request an application form via ipeh@westsussexscouts.org.uk

The funding application form remains the same and initial funding if successful will be for a period of six months as it was previously. After this it will be reviewed every quarter to ensure that funds are being used appropriately. If the family is still being supported by IPEH this will be reviewed through the Team Around the Family meeting. If the support has closed it will be reviewed by the local IPEH hub.

Practical Help

County and District team members are aware of this partnership, so please contact the relevant ADC or District Leader in the first instance to talk about any concerns.

Leaders are welcome to attend a [Module 15: Challenging Behaviour](#) again if they need a refresh or new methods on how to manage any challenging behaviour presented. Leaders are encouraged to ensure their Safeguarding Awareness training is up to date and are reminded of the 'code of behaviour' contained on the [Young People First' code of practice](#) (yellow card).

Details of the key worker will be made available when the child is referred, leaders can contact this person if they feel it appropriate.

Leaders are reminded of the rules and guidance regarding the formal suspension of youth members; [POR: Chapter 15](#) and [Factsheet FS140101: Guidance on the formal suspension of youth members](#).

Parents as helpers

Groups should engage with the parents/guardians in the same way as for all other members. If the key worker is aware of any reason a parent should not be involved in Scouting this information will be disclosed as part of the referral. All the usual safeguarding and disclosure check processes apply, so continue to follow these as normal.

Monitoring Success

In order to monitor the success of our partnership with the Integrated Prevention and Earliest Help Service we are required to complete questionnaires with all those who join. The questionnaires have been designed with simplicity in mind and a separate information sheet will be provided to detail how to complete this.

We will also provide a termly report which will include data about the number of referrals, those that join, leave, length of engagement and funding issued. It will also include the feedback from the questionnaires.