



Taunton Deane Explorer Scouts



DRAGON EXPLORERS
TAUNTON DEANE EXPLORER SCOUTS AT WILTON

WELCOME PACK

www.dragonexplorers.org.uk

DRAGON EXPLORERS

WHAT IS EXPLORER SCOUTING?

Explorers is for anyone aged 14-18, both male and female. You don't have to have been in Scouting before, and you don't have to have been at Wilton before. It gives the opportunity for much more adventure and independence than the younger sections of Scouting, whilst still retaining all the fun and excitement!

You can move up from Scouts at any point when you feel ready between the ages of 13.5 and 14.5. When you reach the age of 18 you can move on to the next stage of Scouting which is Network.

Dragon Explorer Unit is part of the Taunton Deane Explorers. There are five linked Units in and around Taunton:

Unit	Meeting place and day	Contact
Taunton Explorers	Monday nights at Tangier	John Gallimore 07786 547079
Pheonix Explorers	Thursday nights at Six Acres	John Blackmore 07760 253080
Dragon Explorers	Tuesday and Thursday nights at Wilton Scout Hut	Robin Harris 07981 826919
Wellington Explorers	Wednesday nights at Wellington Scout HQ	Steve Altria 01823 666295
Bishops Lydeard Explorers	Friday nights at Bishops Lydeard Scout Hut	Robin Seeley 07919 540739

WHAT WILL IT COST?

£35 per term, payable to 1st Taunton (Wilton) Scout Group. Extra activities and camps are priced at cost. (We would not wish for any of our Explorers to miss out due to financial concerns, so if money is a concern please have a discreet word with one of the Leaders).

WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?

For day to day meetings the Dragon Explorers tend to wear a Dragon Explorer polo shirt and the blue district Explorer scarf. For more formal occasions you will need to obtain the beige Explorer uniform shirt. (If you prefer you are welcome to wear the formal shirt all the time).

The Dragon Explorer polo shirts cost £11. The blue Explorer scarf is £4, smart shirts are £20. If you want you can also get a Dragon Explorer hoodie for £12. All are available at the Wilton Scout Hut; the formal uniform items are also available in the Scout shop at Tangier which is open Wednesdays 7-9pm during term time.

YOUNG LEADERS

A Young Leader is someone of Explorer age who helps with one of the younger Scouting sections. We are always glad of help with the younger sections and would encourage you to consider becoming a Young Leader. We would welcome YLs to the Beavers, Cubs or Scouts at Wilton and I have no doubt that all the other groups in Taunton would equally welcome you with open arms.

Do please let me know if you are hoping to be a Young Leader.

If you want to just be a Young Leader and not bother with Explorers the subscription is £4 (many Groups will pay this for you in recognition of the help you give). If you are an Explorer as well as a Young Leader you only need to pay for Explorers. Also: don't forget that Young Leaders are expected to do a little training. There is only 1 compulsory module (which is Module A) and it only takes 2 hours. Check our website for forthcoming dates.

CAMPS AND OTHER THINGS

Hopefully you will also have received a copy of our programme. You may have noticed that there are lots of camps and extra events on the programme each term. You are welcome to attend all of them. However we recognise that you are likely not to have the time to attend all the opportunities on offer during your time in Explorers, for example when you are busy with exams. Please come to the camps and activities that you

can and want to. At Dragon Explorers we will try to pass on all the District and County opportunities that arise, even when this leaves the programme looking rather full. This then allows you the choice.

DofE

We hope that during your time in Explorers you will wish to undertake some of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards (if you are not already doing them through school). These awards are a worthwhile challenge that fit well into the ethos of Scouting and will stand you in good stead in the future as well. You can start DofE from the age of 14. It is worth getting registered in good time so that things we do at Explorers can be counted towards your award. A registration form is included in this pack. You can find out more information about what is involved on our website and on the DofE website.

COMMUNICATION

In the younger sections of Scouting the Leaders often email or send letters to your parents. In Explorers we treat you as more responsible for yourselves and therefore communicate directly to you, copied to your parents where appropriate. At the moment this is by a combination of weekly emails and occasional bulk texts. I would appreciate it if you could let me know details of email addresses and mobile numbers and all your other contact details on the attached membership form. You might also like to take a look at the Taunton Deane Explorer Scouts Facebook page which is another excellent channel of communication.

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

There is lots of further information to be found on our website: www.dragonexplorers.org.uk. Alternatively you can contact Robin on 07981 826919 or robinharris@cantab.net.

THE SCOUT LAW

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

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 MOTTO

Be Prepared

DATA PROTECTION

The Scout Movement in the United Kingdom is a membership organisation. To enable it to operate - and to communicate with its members - it is necessary to maintain records about them. This will include keeping details of name; address; date of birth; contact telephone numbers. We will also be keeping details of your son's/daughter's progress through Scouting (badges gained etc). Information held in our Explorer Scout Section may be shared from time to time within Scouting including the Headquarters of the Association. To hold this 'Sensitive Personal Data' we will need your explicit consent. This can be given by completing the enclosed form. All the information will only be used in connection with your son's/daughter's membership of the Scout Movement in the United Kingdom - this will include membership management and communications.



Your contact details			
Name:		Date of birth:	
Home address:		Home phone:	
		Your mobile:	
		Your email:	
Are you also a Young Leader?			
Group:		Section:	
Your parents / guardians			
Parent / guardian 1		Parent / guardian 2	
Name:		Name:	
Relationship: <small>to young person</small>		Relationship: <small>to young person</small>	
Address:	<input type="checkbox"/> as above	Address:	<input type="checkbox"/> as above
Home phone:	<input type="checkbox"/> as above	Home phone:	<input type="checkbox"/> as above
Mobile:		Mobile:	
Email:		Email:	
Second emergency contact			
Name:		Address:	
Home phone:			
Mobile:			
Medical and other information			
Medical problems:			
Allergies:			
Other information that may be helpful:			
GP surgery:		School:	
Parents' consents			
As parent of the child named above I confirm that I have read and fully understand the details of Taunton Explorers. I agree to my child taking part in routine activities which may involve short trips and visits and district events. I also agree to my child being photographed. I know of no medical or other reason why he/she may not participate.			
I consent to any medical treatment necessary and authorise the Explorer Leaders to sign on my behalf in the case of any life threatening situation on the understanding that every effort is made to contact me. (In the case of non consent, do not sign, please provide a letter which can be provided to the emergency services in the event of an accident or incident).			
I give / do not give <small>please delete as appropriate</small> permission for my young person to participate in air rifle shooting, archery, climbing, abseiling, canoeing, kayaking and hill walking with their Explorer Group.			
Signed:		Date:	

TAUNTON DEANE EXPLORER SCOUT CODE OF CONDUCT

- All Explorer Scouts are to be members of Taunton Deane Explorer Scouts regardless of which Section(s) they attend.
- All Explorer Scouts are expected to wear uniform and District Scarf of Royal Blue when required.
- All Explorer Scouts will need to know, understand, and abide by the Scout Law and Promise.
- All Explorer Scouts are expected to carry out any reasonable request made to them by the Adult Leader Team.
- All Explorer Scouts/Young Leaders are expected to behave in a responsible manner befitting their positions as Explorer Scouts/Young Leaders.
- Inappropriate verbal communication or physical action to either Explorer Leaders or other young persons will not be tolerated.
- The use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any Explorer Scout event.
- All mobile phone should be on "silent" at all normal events and only used with agreement of one of the leaders in charge.
- Leaders reserve the right to exclude Explorer Scouts according to the procedure laid down in "Policy, Organisation and Rules".

I agree to abide by the above code of conduct.

Explorer Scout

Date

(please sign and print name)

Parent / Guardian

Date

(please sign and print name)