



## **Attendance Policy**

3<sup>rd</sup> St Neots (Wintringham) Scout Group opened fully in January 2026 to meet increasing demand in the Wintringham, and wider St Neots area. Most of our sections reached capacity with active waiting lists soon after opening.

Because of our active waiting lists, it is important that young people attend regularly and don't deprive another child of the opportunity to enjoy Scouting. Poor attendance also makes it difficult for young people to earn badges, can have a detrimental effect on their team and creates problems for the leaders in organising activities.

### **Planned absences**

We are aware that many of our young people are also involved in sports and other activities and do not expect them to forego these in place of Scouting. However, we request that Section Leaders are informed in advance when a young person will not be able to attend a meeting, and please let us know why.

If a parent/ carer knows in advance that their child will often have to miss meetings or can only attend part of the term, for example every other week, they should discuss this with their Section Leader.

### **Illness**

If a young person is too unwell to attend school/nursery, then they are unfortunately too unwell to attend Scouts. We ask that parents/ carers follow the same guidance as schools regarding sickness and illness when considering if their young person is well enough to attend.

If a young person is unwell and unable to attend, we request that Section Leaders are informed.

### **Unexplained absences**

If a young person has 25% attendance or less in a term, without timely communication of a valid reason, they may be asked to leave the Group at the end of that term.

If a young person misses three consecutive meetings without any explanation, we will assume they have left the Group and will offer their place to another young person on our waiting list.

The Group will ensure that responsible efforts are made to community with parents/ carers and suitable notification is given before offering a place to another young person.

Approved by the Trustee Team: 11/04/2026

To be reviewed: Every three years, or sooner if required.