



## **4<sup>th</sup> Newbury Scout Group Facebook Policy & Guidelines for Social Media Use**

**Approved November 2024**

### **Closed Facebook Groups**

- 1) The Group may create Facebook groups to aid with the administration of their section or the group. These Facebook groups must be closed groups with access granted only to the parents/carers of the section's members and its leaders.
- 2) Membership of closed Facebook groups will run until that member moves on to the next section or leaves the relevant section, at which time the parental access will be removed.
- 3) Closed Facebook groups are only to be used to communicate details of scouting sessions and to share the scouting achievements of its members, such as completion of badgework or participation in scouting activities.
- 4) All posts should be positive and supportive of scouting. Parents/carers are encouraged to work directly with leaders and Trustees or parent representatives if they have concerns to share rather than using a closed Facebook group.
- 5) The Facebook group administrators (which will consist of the section leader/trustees) will oversee the posts on closed Facebook groups and will delete those that are deemed inappropriate, offensive or likely to cause embarrassment to members and/or parents/carers.
- 6) Photographs may be posted on closed Facebook groups, but only in accordance with the guidelines provided at the end of this policy.

**Failure to adhere to this policy will result in the parent/carer being removed from the closed Facebook group**

### **Public Facebook Page**

- 1) The group may also create a public Facebook page. This public page will be used by leaders to promote a positive image of scouting in the local community; the page will be used to promote the group and raise the group's profile in the community. The page can also be used for volunteer or member recruitment.
- 2) The Facebook page administrators (which may be nominated from each section/trustees)

will oversee the posts on the Facebook page and delete those that are deemed inappropriate, offensive or likely to cause embarrassment to members and/or parents/carers. Comments will be monitored and inappropriate or off-topic comments will be deleted and the poster maybe blocked.

- 3) Photos may be posted to illustrate the activities of the group. Photos will only be posted in accordance with the guidelines provided at the end of this policy.

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Newbury Photograph Guidance

- 1) Parents/carers can only post appropriate photographs of their own children. They must not post photographs of any other children.
- 2) Leaders can post photographs of any members whose parents/carers have given permission for photographs to be used. They must follow the guidelines laid down by the Scout Association Safeguarding Policy at all times. Where photographs of a group of children include a child for whom permission for the use of photographs has not been given the leader must use photo editing software to either remove the child or make them unrecognisable.
- 3) Permission for the use of photographs is given by parents/carers when the child joins the 4<sup>th</sup> Newbury Scout Group. It will be considered to remain in place until the member leaves the Group, but may be revoked in writing at any time by the parent/carer. This revocation must be sent to the section leader.
- 4) If permission to use photographs is withdrawn by the parent/carer, the leaders will ensure that any photographs taken after that date will not include the named child. They are not responsible for changing any photographs that were taken prior to that date. The parent/carer may, however, identify any photographs on the Facebook group that they want to be removed and the leaders will be responsible for actioning this.
- 5) The group will at no time guarantee access to any photo posted on the site. Access to any or all photos could be removed at any time without prior notice at the sole discretion of the group.
- 6) Members may not take copies of photographs (other than those which are solely of their own children) from the Facebook group and post them anywhere else on Facebook or other social media sites. Leaders cannot be responsible for photographs that appear on other areas of social media that originated on the Facebook group.