



# Welcome to Dunning Beavers



Welcome to the Colony. We hope that you have lots of fun and make loads of new friends while you are a Beaver Scout.

Before you can make your Beaver Scout Promise and wear your Group Scarf there are a few things that you will need to do.

Ask your Mum or Dad to sign each part as you complete it and when they are all signed you will be ready to make your Promise.

Task	Date completed	Carer's signature
Know about your Beaver Scout Colony by attending Colony meetings for at least four weeks		
Understand the Colony's traditions and what the Leaders are called		
Learn the Beaver Scout Promise and talk to an adult about it		
Know and understand the Beaver Scout Motto		
Know how to make the Scout sign and when to use it		
Know how Scout's shake hands and why		
Know the meaning of your badges and what they show		



You are now ready to make  
your Beaver Scout Promise



# The Membership Award - Getting to know the Colony



You will learn about the Beaver Scout Colony by attending Colony meetings for at least four weeks. During this time you will get to know your Leaders.

Dunning Beavers has a leadership team, who take it in turns to plan and run meetings. At the very first meeting the Beavers decided on names for them, inspired by the stuffed animals in the Reading Room in the hall!

The Leader in Charge each week is called Falcon, and the assistant Leader is known as Raven. We always have a parent helper – they get to be called Pigeon!



## About the ceremonies and traditions in your Colony

At the beginning of the meeting Falcon calls out “On the river bank”. When we hear this, we stand to attention at in a line to hear what we are doing in that evening.

When Falcon says, “Make a dam” we all form a circle around Falcon. Falcon asks, “one two three, who are we?” and the Beavers answer, “We are Dunning Beavers, can’t you see?”

Then we all crouch down, and spell out “B-E-A-V-E-R-S”.

At the end of the meeting we do it again.

Beavers do a wide range of activities. We try to spend as much time outdoors as we can, doing activities in Kincladie Wood and in the park.



# The Beaver Scout Promise

When we promise something, we are telling people that we really mean what we say. So what does the Beaver Scout Promise mean?

## I promise to do my best

You promise to do your best at everything you do

- Schoolwork
- Sports
- Hobbies
- Everything!

## To be kind and helpful

Do what you can to help other people who need your help

- Do not wait to be asked for help
- Share the good things you have
- Be friendly towards other people

## And to love our World.

To care for the world around you

- To think about your beliefs and pray to your God in the way you have learnt





## The Scout Motto

Be prepared



You should be prepared to:

- Have fun
- Make new friends
- Help other people
- To do your best

## The Scout Handshake and salute

Beaver Scouts shake hands with their left hand. Do you know why?

Baden –Powell, the founder of the Scouts, was introduced to an African Chief who said 'we hold our shields in our left hands. When we shake with the left hand, we have to put our shield down, so when you put out your left hand it means "I trust you"'.

Baden-Powell adopted the left handed handshake to show that Scouts were trustworthy.

The Scout Sign is made with the right hand.

- Can you make the sign?
- When do we use it?



We salute only when someone is taking their promise, or when Falcon asks us to.

# The Beaver Uniform

Each Scout Group in your District wears a different coloured scarf, so people know where they are from.



The Dunning scarf has some of the same colours as the original scarf the Dunning Scouts wore.

It also has our fierce dragon on it! Try and roll a scarf so that it looks neat and tidy – it takes a lot of practise!

Once you are invested as a Beaver, you must wear your uniform to all Beaver activities.

The uniform shows that you are part of the worldwide family of Scouts, and that you are from Dunning.



Beavers' official uniform is a sweatshirt. You can buy these from the [Glasgow Scout Shop](#), as well as other places on line such as the [Beaver Uniform Company](#).

We will give you all the badges you need when you are invested, as well as your neckerchief ("necker"). You should ask your Dad or Mum to help you sew the badges on, following the picture above.



## Membership Badges



You are part of the 26th Perthshire (Dunning) Scout Group, in the Beaver Colony.

The Scout Group is part of a Scout District.

Beaver Scouts from the District sometimes meet together for activities.

Our District is Perth and Kinross.



The District is part of East Scotland Region; we wear the Scotland badge too.

## Investiture

Being invested means being welcomed into the worldwide family of Scouts. That means making your promise in front of your friends, leaders and family.

At your investiture, you will make the Scout sign and say your promise along with all the other Beavers. You will be given your membership badges and your neckerchief.





# Dunning Beavers; information for parents and carers



## Fees

Although all the time from leaders is provided for free, running Beavers still costs money. This pays for things like the membership fee we pay to the Scouting association (who provide insurance, training for leaders etc.), hire of the hall and the equipment we need for activities. We also provide each Beaver with a neckerchief, and pay for all the badges they earn (they cost £1 each!).

We carry out fundraising to defray the costs for the parents, so charge £2.50 per meeting for each Beaver. We ask you to pay this in four £25 payments, one each term.

You'll receive a fee note near the beginning of each term; please help us by paying promptly. You can pay by BACS transfer (preferred), or by cheque/cash. Our bank details are:

Dunning Beaver Scout Colony. Sort code: 09-01-29 Bank account: 19586878. Please use your child's name as the payment reference.

If payment for your child is significantly late, we reserve the right to offer their place to another child.

There may be additional charges to cover the cost of special activities or days out; we'll let you know about any charges before the activities take place.

If you have any financial difficulties, please speak in confidence to either the Beaver Scout Leader or the Group Scout Leader.



## Parent Helpers

Each meeting will be run by an appointed leader, as well as another PVG-checked adult. We will also have a parent-helper (who the kids will call "the pigeon"!).

It isn't a big job – you'll be asked to do one or maybe two nights per term. On the night you'll help out with activities and help us prepare and tidy up at the end.

A rota will be sent around at the beginning of term. If you are not available for your night, please talk to other parents/carers and swap your night.

Without your help, the meetings and activities wouldn't be possible.

Beavers is about having fun, and learning new things. Part of the fun can come from earning badges.

Earning badges can give children an incentive to learn, and allows us to reward good behaviour and hard work.

## Categories of badges:

### Activity badges

These are the simplest badges, and most of them can be done at home.



### Staged activity badges

These badges are designed to run throughout a child's time in Scouting, with four or five stages to be earned. The first stages are fairly simple, although they get more demanding as they move up. For most badges, the Beavers should be able to get to the first stage, with some being able to get higher stages.



### Challenge badges

These are the backbone of the Beaver Scout programme, and if the Beavers earn all of them, they are awarded the Bronze Chief Scout's Badge.



## What will be done in meetings?

We put together a programme for each term; over the two years your children are in Beavers they should be able to qualify for all the challenge badges. We will also do some of the activity badges in meetings.

## What do we need from parents and carers?

At times, we will ask you to help your children by doing work outside meetings. It won't be onerous – we might ask you to help them practise a new skill, or take a picture of something they've cooked with you. There are also badges that you can do together outside Beavers (the activity badges) if you'd like to. For example, the [swimming staged activity badge](#), or the [collector badge](#).

You can find out more on all the badges and the criteria on the [Scouting website](#).

If you are going to do badges, have a chat with a Leader beforehand to agree how we'll assess their learning.

## How do we assess badges?

The Beavers have to have made an effort and demonstrate they have learnt something. The criteria may be slightly different for different children, depending on their abilities. Beavers who have been attending meetings for longer will inevitably have more badges; as Leaders we'll make sure there's no teasing, and that they all learn to celebrate the success of others. Most importantly – Beavers has to be fun. We'll make sure that badges contribute to the enjoyment.