

Title: Friendship Knot -

Code of Behaviour

Section:  All Sections Place:  Meeting or Camp Duration:  30 minutes Participants: All youth members in small groups	
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SPICES – Learning Objectives

Character – Be kind to others and don't do harm

Character – Learn about respecting others

Social – Be a friend – Understand that everyone is different. Be welcoming and include others in the things I do.

Social – Understand that it is important that I am considerate and help others.

This is to demonstrate the importance of treating others with respect and kindness and living by a Code of Behaviours (Scout Promise & Law).

Overview

- Each section should develop a Code of Behaviour that outlines how we as Scouts should respect and listen to others. It should be about developing positive behaviours and a no tolerance approach to bullying.
- The Code of Behaviour is developed in small groups initially, bringing everyone's ideas back to entire group and then reaching consensus on the final Code of Behaviour.
- The Code of Behaviour should be communicated to Youth members, their parents/guardians and Adult Scouters should sign it.

Activity Objectives

- Develop and agree a Code of Behaviour
- Achieve Consensus

Materials

- Flipchart paper or similar (e.g. old wallpaper, etc.)
- Markers
- Coloured dot stickers

Description

- Introduce the Code of Behaviour. Outline the purpose and explain that it needs to be agreed by all
- Youth members get into Lodges/Sixes/Patrols/Crews (or other small groups) and talk about how they would like the section to work.
- Encourage the use of positive statements e.g. "Be nice and kind to other", rather than "do not treat others badly".
- Youth members write down their suggestions for the Code of Behaviour on paper or flipchart.
- All members of the section then come together, and the list is displayed for all to see. Give everyone the opportunity to read the list and then decide on the method you are going to use to determine which items will form part of your Code of Behaviour. This could be done by using coloured dots, or different coloured pens, or tick marks on the page.
- You should have a discussion around why or why not these should be included.
- Choose top 8-10 items for inclusion in your Code of Behaviour. Once the list is finalised it should be signed by youth members and adult scouters and displayed during meetings and activities.
- It is also recommended that a printed copy be sent home for parents/guardians to sign, this covers two aspects – firstly that they are aware of the code and its contents, and secondly that they agree to encourage their children to adhere to it.
- Any sanctions to be used need to be appropriate and must be respectful of the rights of our youth members and should be agreed in advance.

Tweaks

- Laminate the Code of Behaviour
- Bring the Code of Behaviour on all section camps/overnights
- This could be done online with older age groups (WhatsApp, Google Form), with parental permission if they are under 18 years old.

Review

Some questions you might pose as part of the review of the process.

- Are we happy with our final Code of Behaviour?
- Was the process of agreeing it fair?
- How do we feel about some of our items not being included?
- Is there anything we could have done differently?

Notes

- Important to place the agreed and signed Code of Behaviour in a prominent position in the regular meeting location
- The Code of Behaviour can be referred to by Scouters whenever there are general or individual behaviour issues and youth members can be reminded that it's their Code of Behaviour that they created
- The focus should be on reinforcing positive behaviour, but any non-Scouting negative behaviours need to be addressed with appropriate previously agreed sanctions