



12th Kidderminster (Blakedown) Scout Group

Group Headquarters,
Rear of Parish Rooms,
off Belbroughton Road,
Blakedown
Charity Registration # 504674



www.blakedownscouts.org.uk

The marvel of the Scouting Movement & Blakedown Scout Group, Worcestershire



The **12th Kidderminster (Blakedown) Scout Group**, based in our own Scout Hut in the centre of the village, provides a full range of activities and membership opportunities for young people from the locality from the age of 6 onwards. The different sections of the Group follow the principles of the Scout movement, developing a consideration for the needs of others in the community as well as the practical skills to help make a difference - together with the self-confidence to play an active role in society. There is a strong emphasis on the 'out' in scouting - the leaders take the young people out and about as often as possible, with outward bound sports and activities a regular feature of the calendar.



Young people can join the Group at any stage, but many start with the **Beaver Scouts** between the ages of six and eight. At this early stage their activities are mainly centred around the Scout Hut, with an occasional visit to the District Camp Site to enjoy a barbecue and a traditional camp fire sing song. The colony meets weekly during the school term, and the Beavers can acquire a variety of badges, from athletics and football through to cooking - although this won't be gourmet standard just yet!



Within the **Cub Scout** pack, where the members are aged from 8 to 10½, the main aim is to introduce them to non-academic but practical skills that are outside a typical school curriculum. Here they will get their first experience of real camping - no frame tents nor luxury caravans in sight, and the showers (if they can be persuaded in there) are clean but basic. Although (for speed and efficiency - of course) Calor Gas is allowed, the young people will also take an active part in cooking round a campfire, and will learn some of the disciplines of communal living.



Scouting Movement 31st July 1907 – today
Still growing and expanding around the World with fun; friends & helping others.





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Moving on to **Scouts** at the age of nearly 11 begins to address more adult activity. The Scouts are extensively involved in helping charities and community groups, with fundraising activities often based around mountaineering, canoeing, orienteering, fell walking and, of course, camping. Although the activities are good exercise and good fun, success also depends on team working, problem solving and a responsible approach. The Blakedown troop has won many prizes for achieving the very highest standards in the activities they undertake, and the young people have a sense of pride in their achievements.



From the age of 14, young people can go on to join the newly constituted **Explorer Scouts**, based on the previous Venture Scout Unit, where they will take increasing responsibility for organising their own activities and events, with appropriate supervision from experienced leaders. Recently, despite freezing weather, the Ventures raised over a thousand pounds for a local hospice with a sponsored abseil from a Kidderminster shopping centre.



Throughout their scouting career, young people in the **Blakedown Scout Group** are encouraged to develop their own skills and talents, to take pride in the communities where they live and in the contribution they can make. As they leave to develop their own lives and careers, the Scout movement will provide ongoing support and social contact through the **Scout Network**, and **Scout Fellowship**, part of the worldwide scouting movement.



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